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# Amulet

KAZU KIBUISHI

BOOK NINE  
WAVERIDER

 SCHOLASTIC

Amulet



# AMULET

KAZU KIBUISHI

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## BOOK NINE WAVERIDER



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The background is a deep blue space filled with stars and nebulae. Large, glowing white and blue ripples, resembling waves or gravitational waves, spread across the scene. In the bottom right, a bright, fiery orange and red object, possibly a black hole or a distant star, is visible. Four white speech bubbles with black outlines are positioned in the upper half of the image, each containing a line of text.

EVERY ACTION CREATES  
A RIPPLE IN TIME AND SPACE.

EVERY RIPPLE HAS THE POTENTIAL TO  
BECOME A GIANT WAVE WHEN AMPLIFIED  
OUT ACROSS THE UNIVERSE.

WHAT WE DO HERE  
RESONATES FAR BEYOND  
OUR REACH AND VISION.

DO YOU UNDERSTAND THE  
RAMIFICATIONS OF YOUR  
ACTIONS, EMILY?













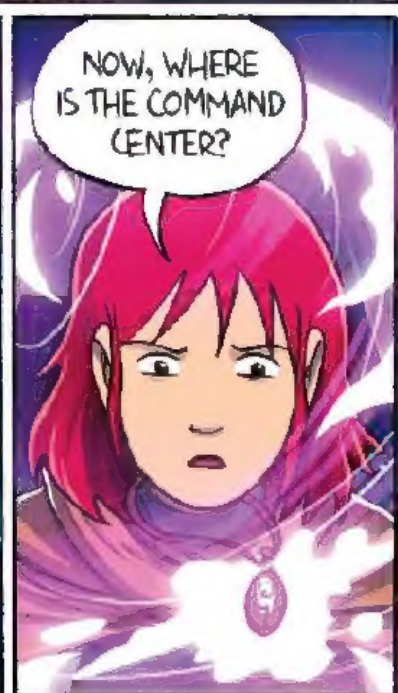




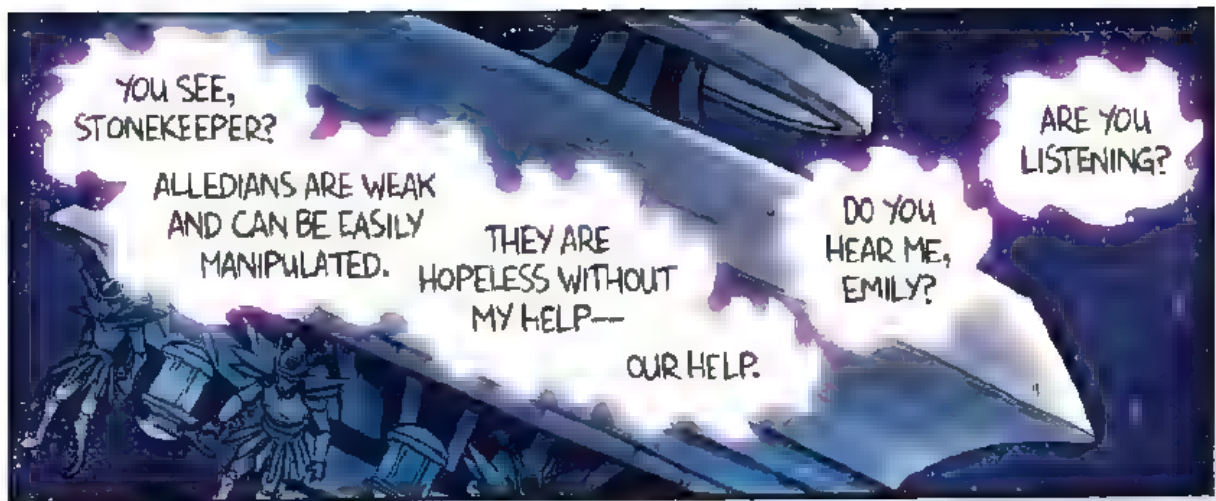












YOU SEE,  
STONEKEEPER?

ALLEDIANS ARE WEAK  
AND CAN BE EASILY  
MANIPULATED.

THEY ARE  
HOPELESS WITHOUT  
MY HELP—

OUR HELP.

ARE YOU  
LISTENING?

DO YOU  
HEAR ME,  
EMILY?



WHAT ARE  
YOU DOING?

LOOKING FOR  
MY FAMILY.

SUBJECT  
COORDINATES  
LOCATED.

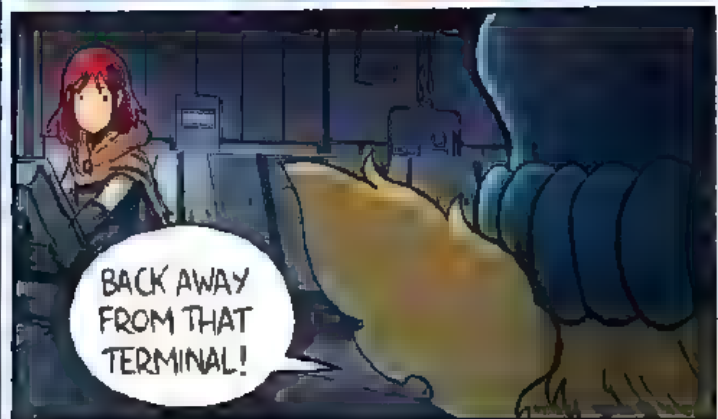
SUBJECTS  
HEADING  
WEST.



THEY'RE ON  
THE SURFACE OF  
TYPHON, DIRECTLY  
BELOW US.

THAT'S WHERE  
WE NEED TO GO.

HEY!



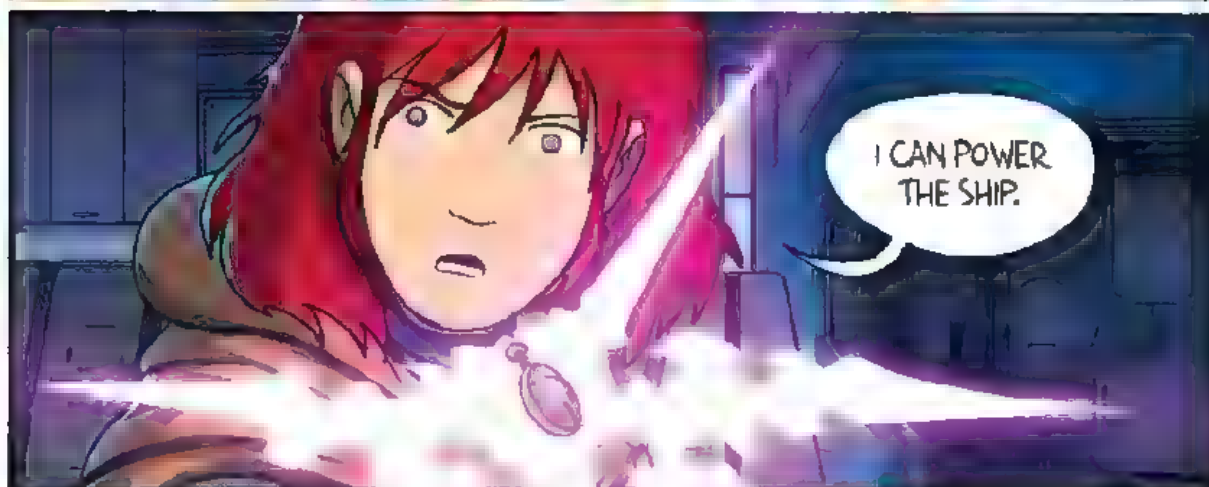
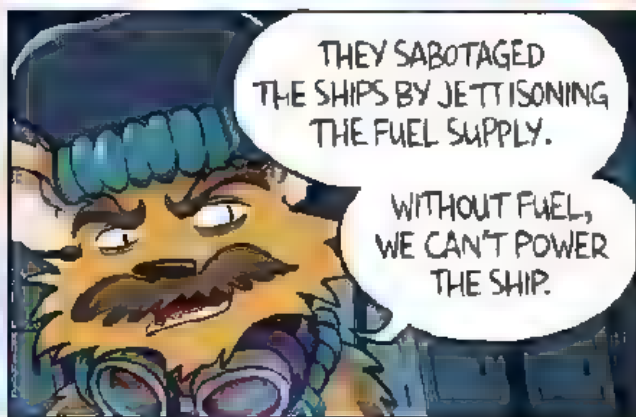
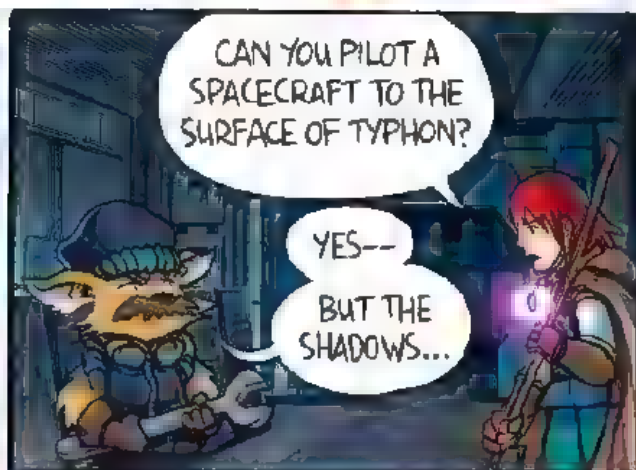
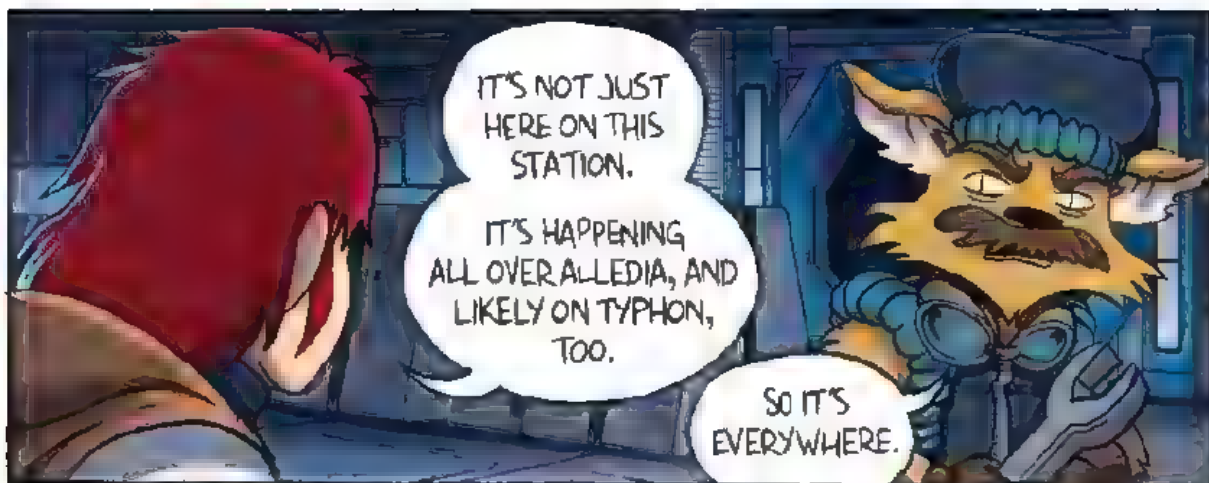
BACK AWAY  
FROM THAT  
TERMINAL!



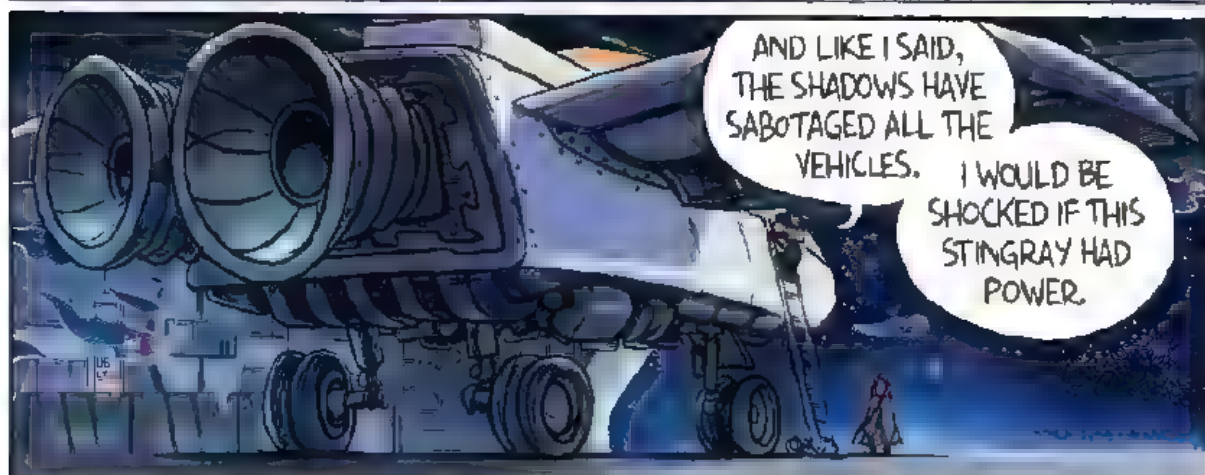
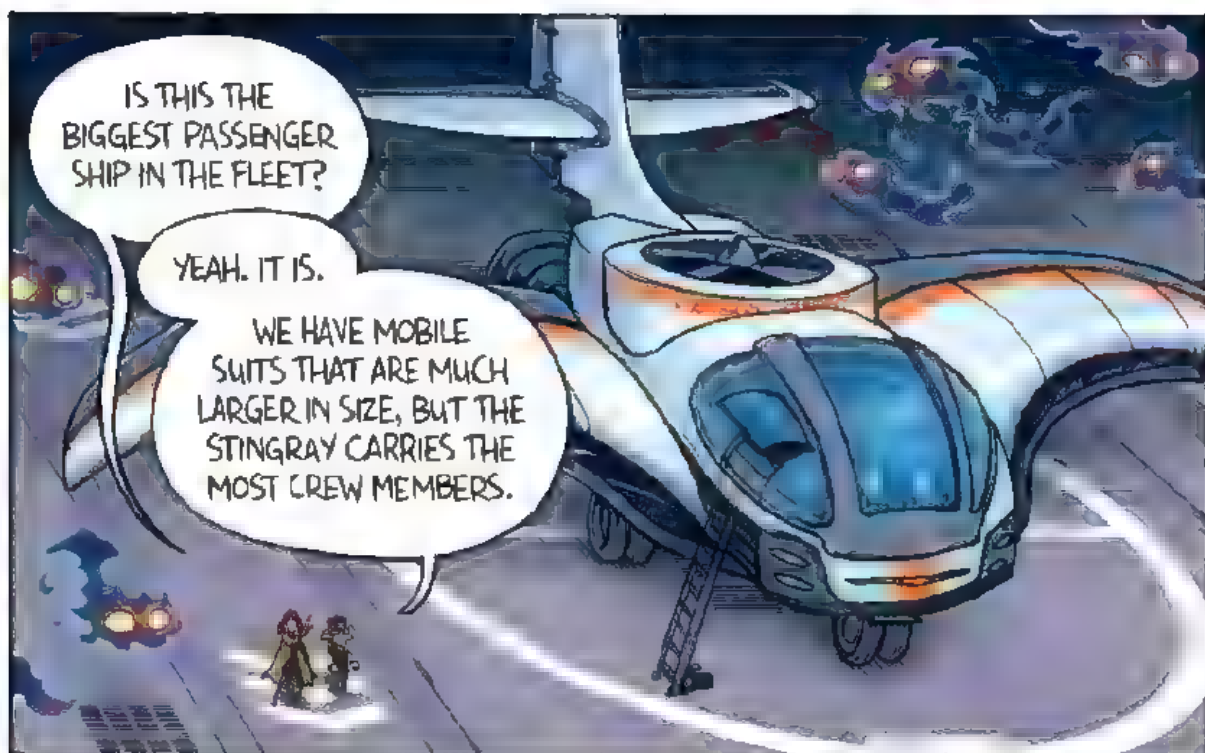
I DON'T KNOW  
WHO YOU ARE, BUT  
IF YOU'RE NOT INFECTED  
BY ONE OF THOSE GHOST  
THINGS, YOU OUGHT TO  
GET OUT WHILE YOU  
STILL CAN!

EVERYONE  
ON THIS STATION  
HAS GONE MAD!

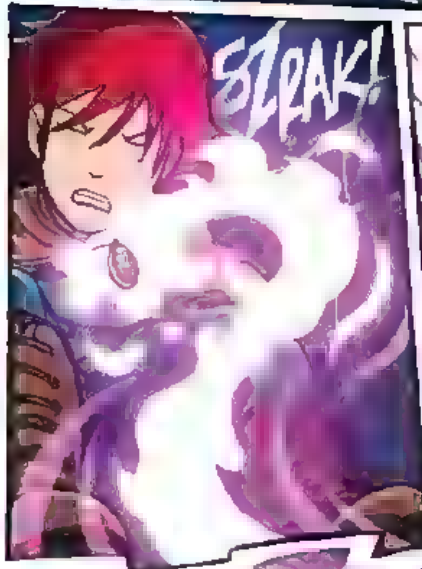
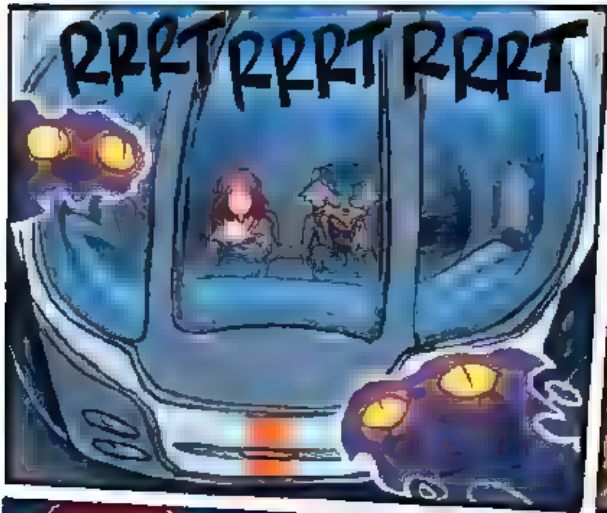




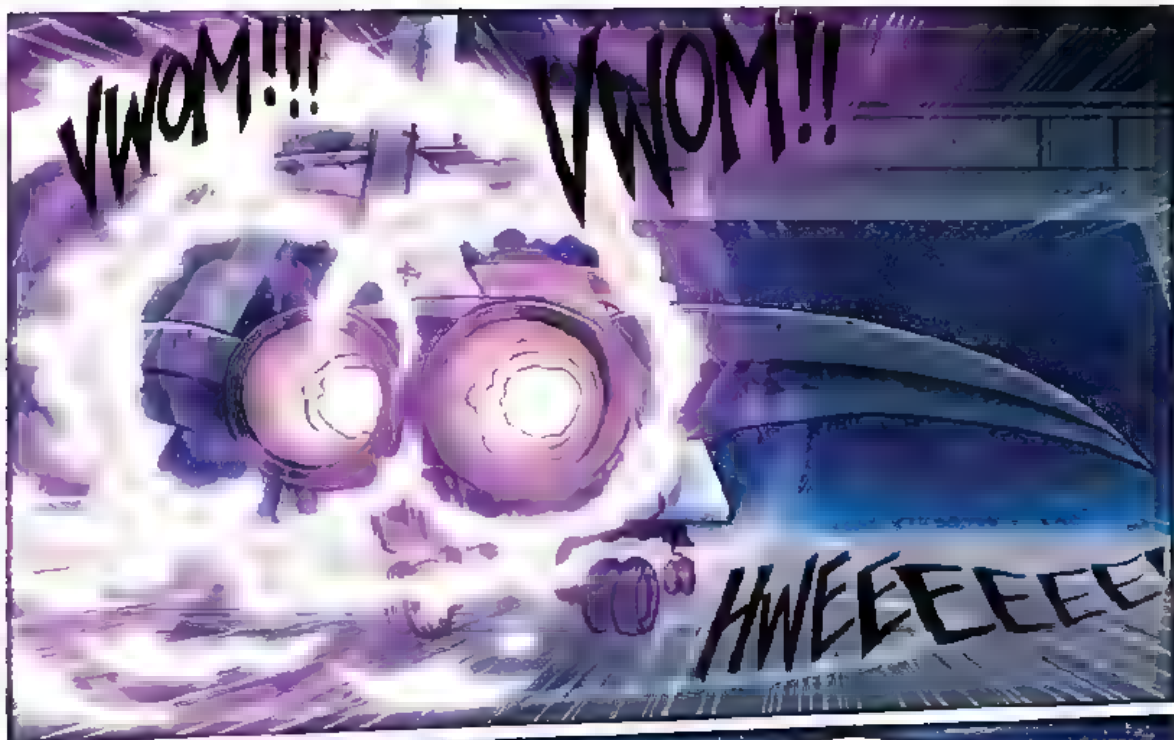




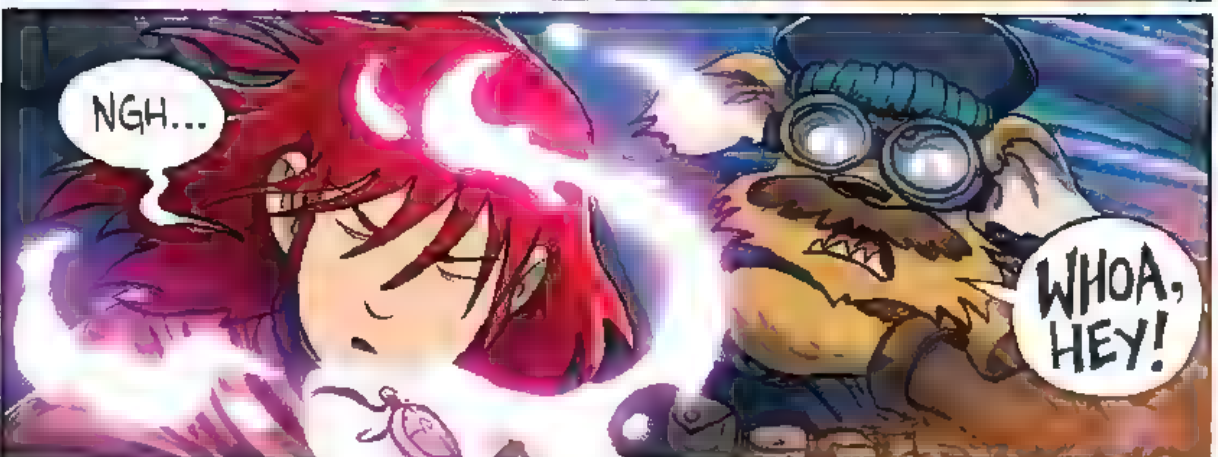
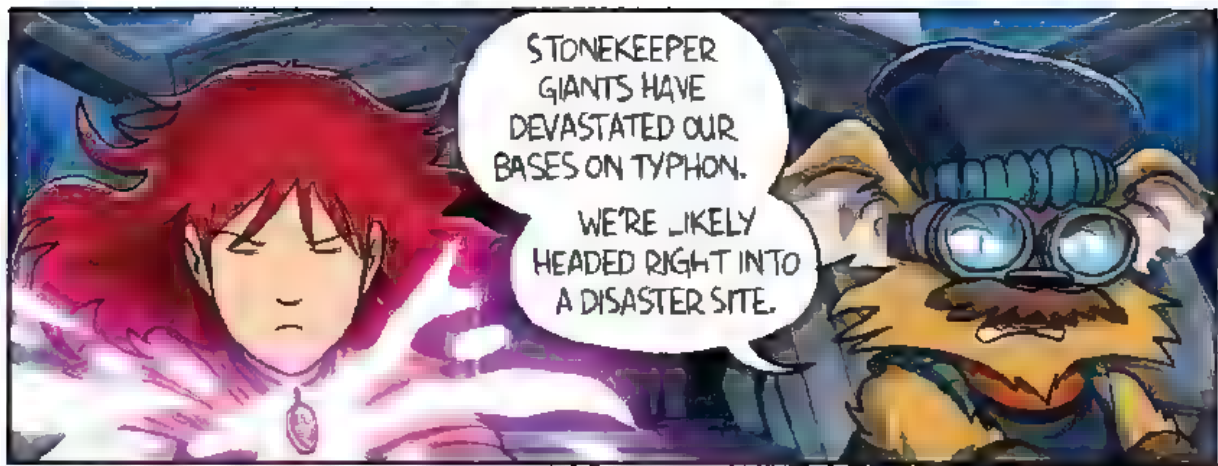

















STAY  
WITH ME!

DON'T  
PASS OUT ON  
ME!!!

BEEP! BEEP!!

WARNING!

TOTAL POWER  
LOSS DETECTED--

AW,  
MAN.

ALL SYSTEMS  
SHUTTING DOWN  
IN FIVE...FOUR...

AW--

NO. NO NO NO...

THREE...

TWO...

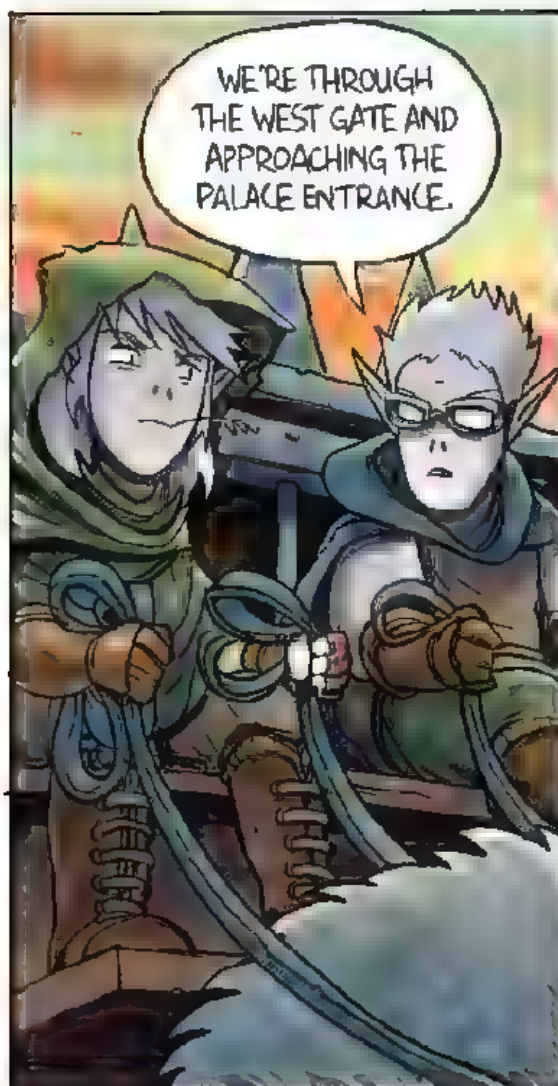
ONE...



VALCOR,  
THE KINGDOM OF  
THE ELVES







WE'RE THROUGH  
THE WEST GATE AND  
APPROACHING THE  
PALACE ENTRANCE.



I SEE THREE  
GUARDS AND THEY  
HAVE WEAPONS.



I CAN TAKE  
THESE FOOLS  
OUT WITH MY  
EYES CLOSED.

NO.



YOUR MISSION  
OBJECTIVE IS TO  
GET US PAST THE  
GATE WITHOUT  
TROUBLE.  
UNDERSTOOD?



GASP!

TRELLIS!

PUT YOUR  
MASK BACK ON!

PATIENCE,  
STONEKEEPER.

STAY QUIET  
JUST A LITTLE  
WHILE LONGER.

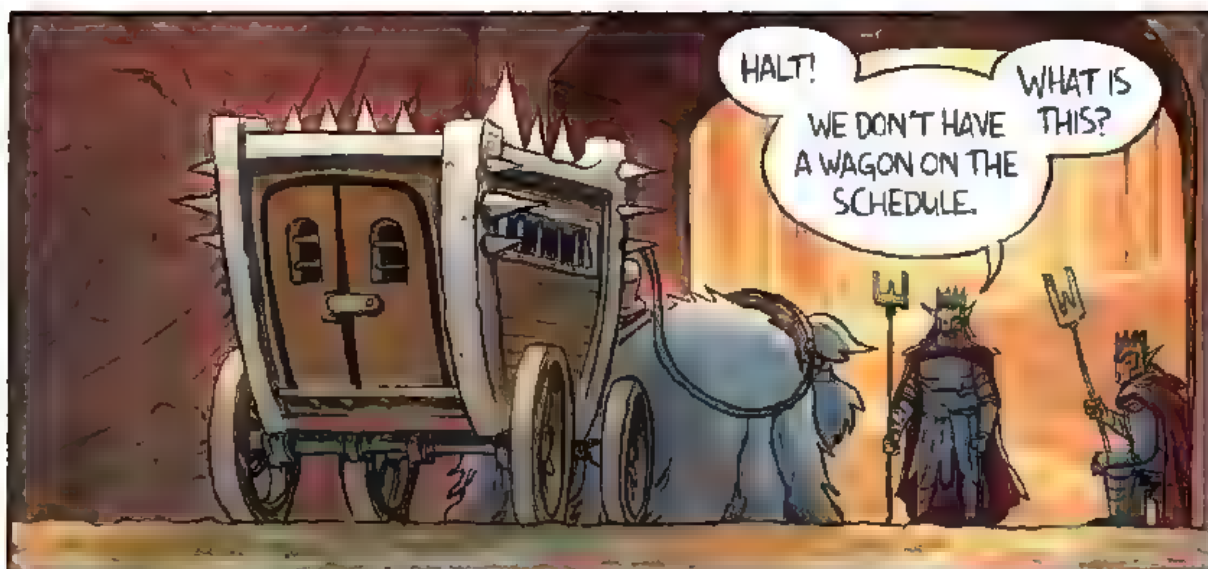
IT'S JUST SO  
HOT IN HERE!

AND THE MASK  
MAKES IT HARD  
TO BREATHE.

SHH!

WE'RE AT THE  
ENTRANCE!





HALT!

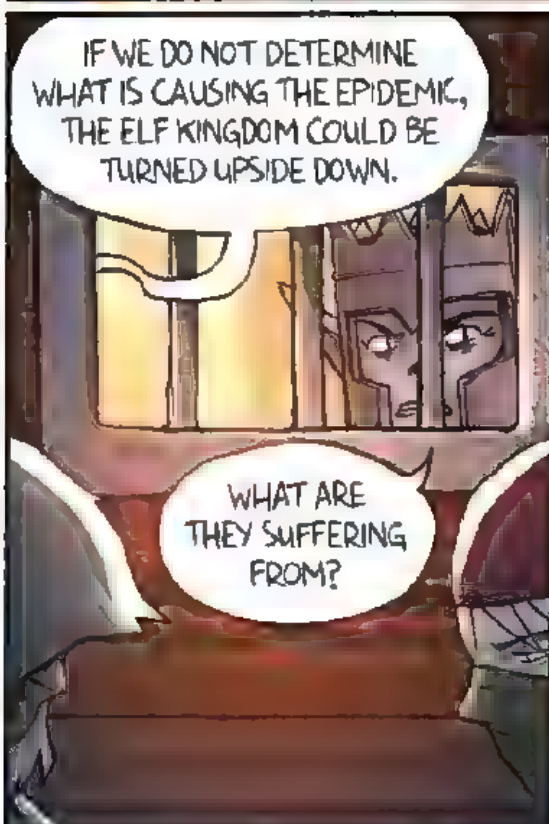
WE DON'T HAVE  
A WAGON ON THE  
SCHEDULE.

WHAT IS  
THIS?



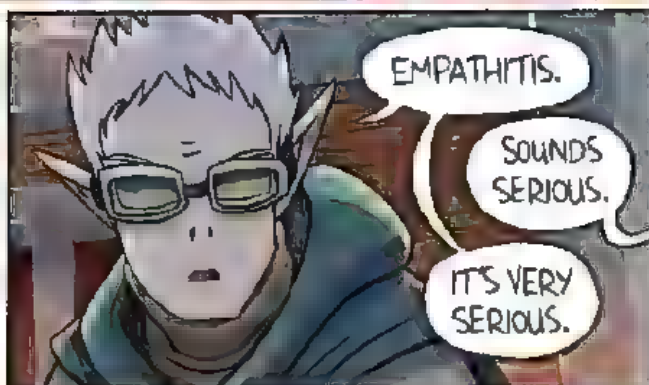
WE ARE CARRYING  
SICK PATIENTS.

THE KING  
REQUESTED THEY  
BE BROUGHT TO  
VALCOR FOR  
STUDY.



IF WE DO NOT DETERMINE  
WHAT IS CAUSING THE EPIDEMIC,  
THE ELF KINGDOM COULD BE  
TURNED UPSIDE DOWN.

WHAT ARE  
THEY SUFFERING  
FROM?



EMPATHITIS.

SOUNDS  
SERIOUS.

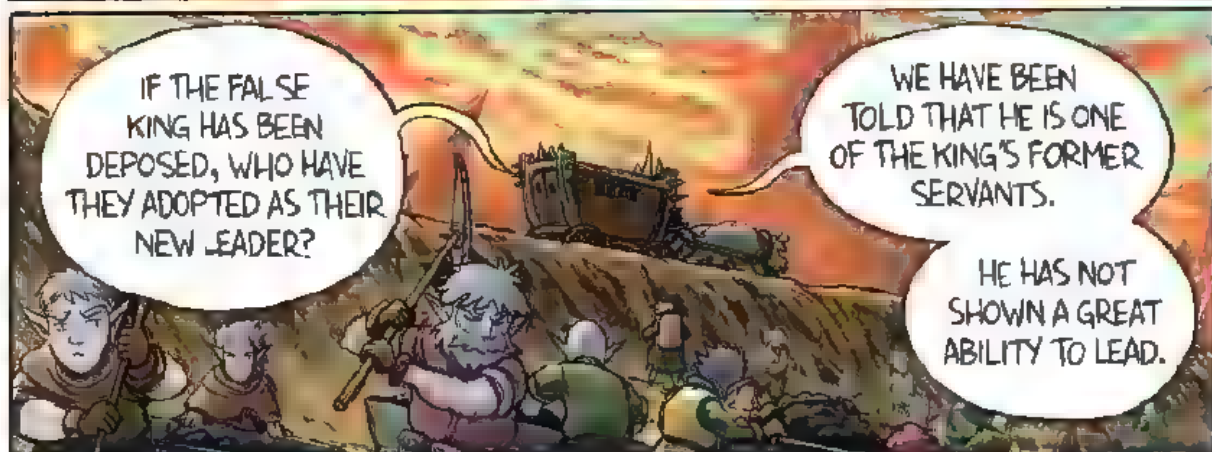
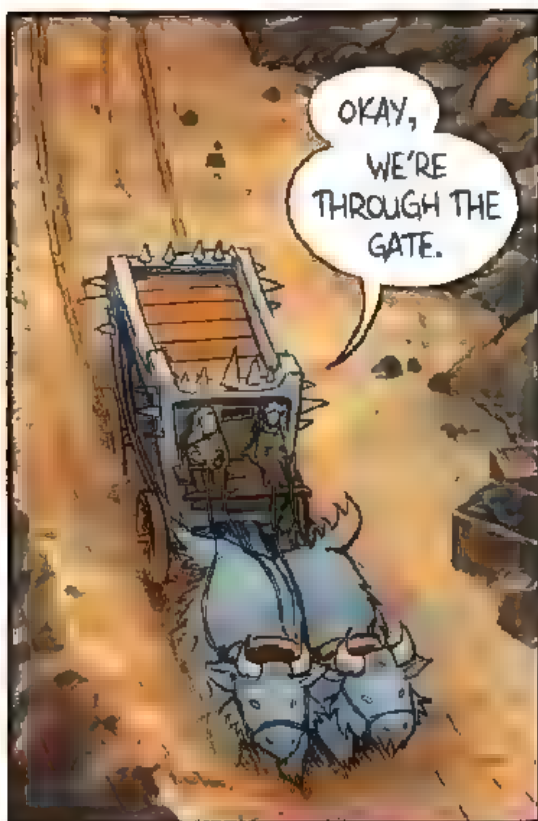
IT'S VERY  
SERIOUS.



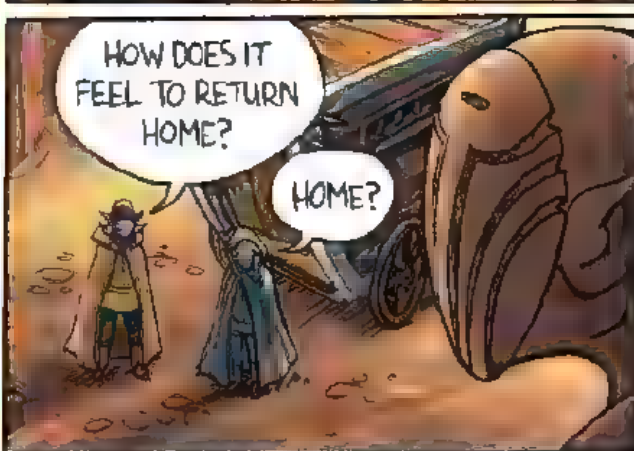
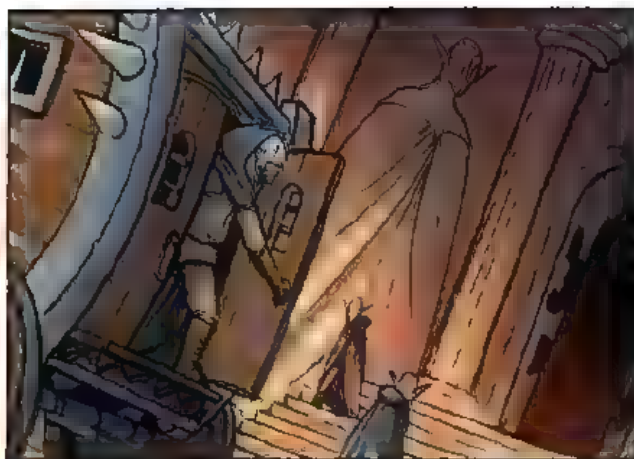
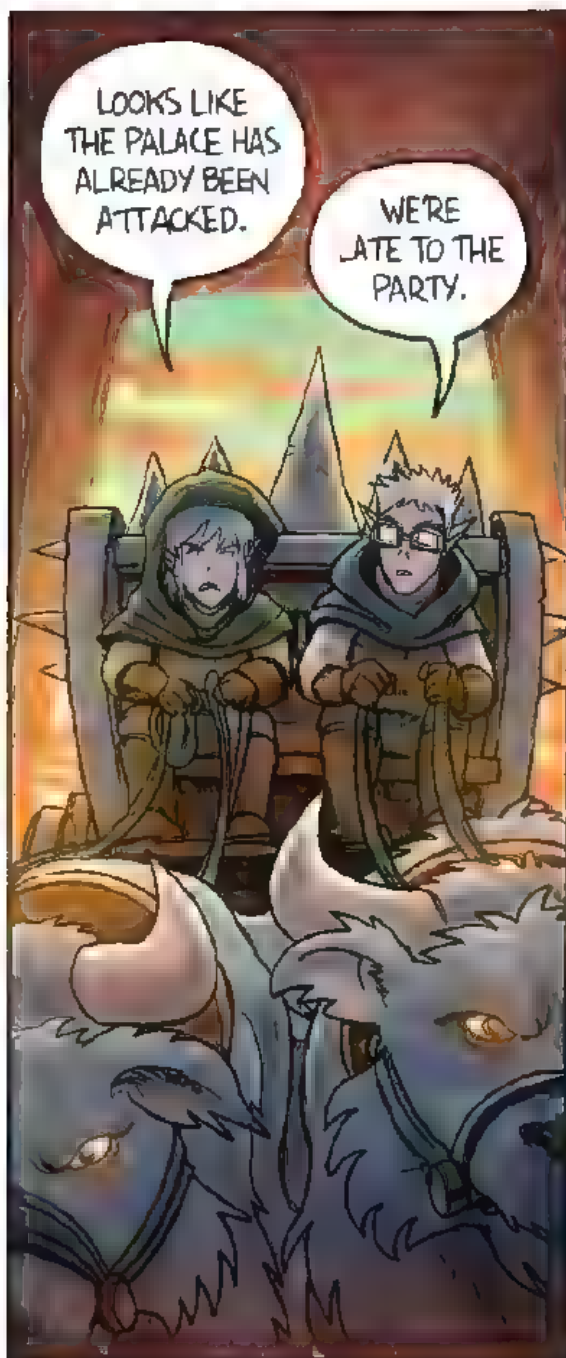
JUST MAKE SURE  
NOT TO LET THEM OUT  
UNTIL YOU REACH THE  
INFIRMARY.

GOT IT.

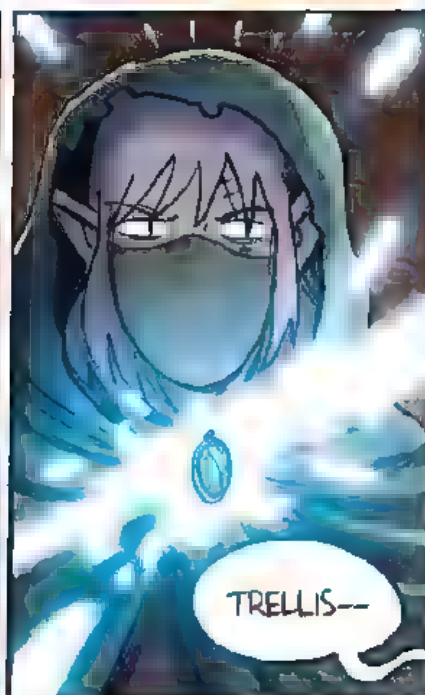
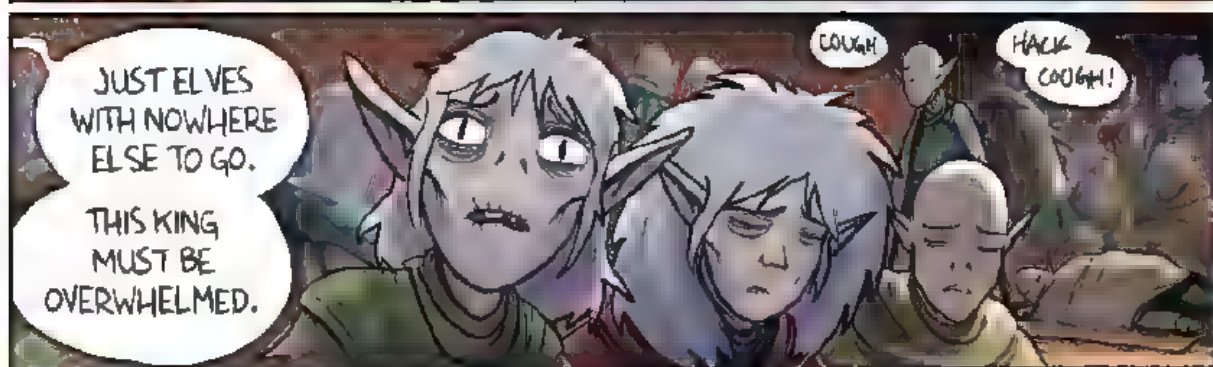
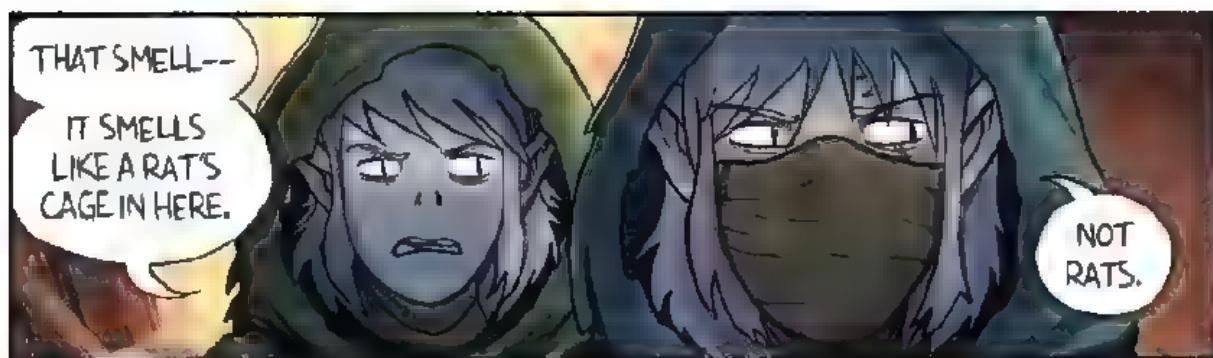


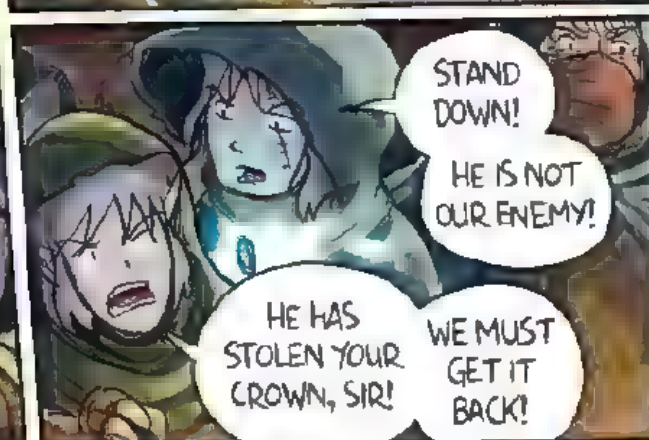
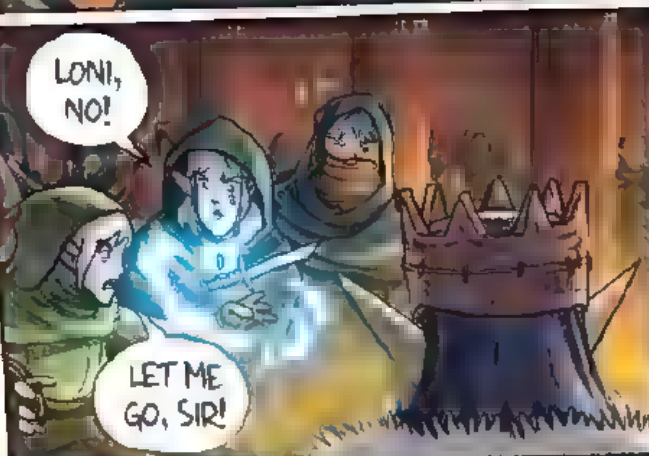
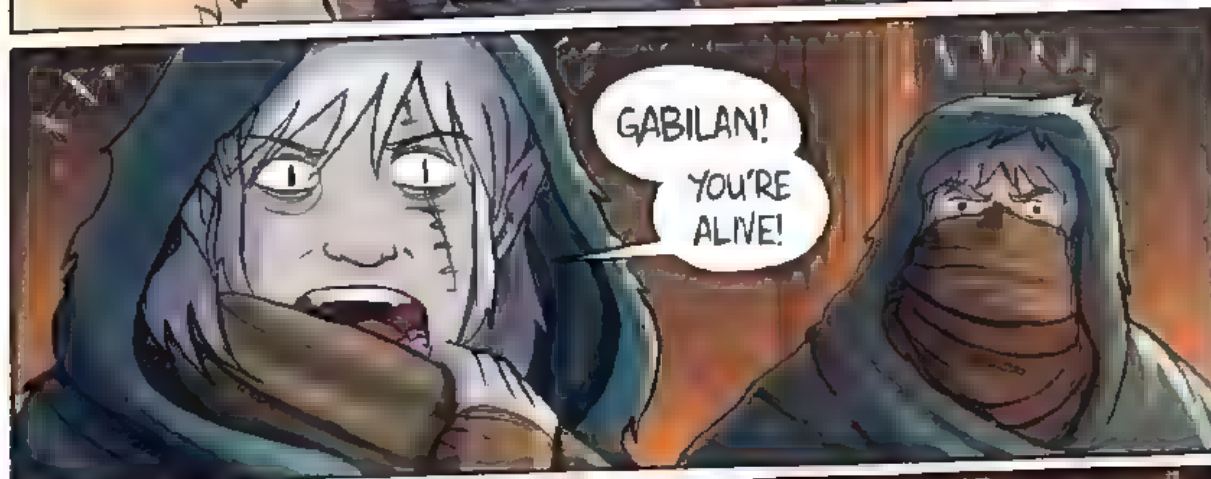
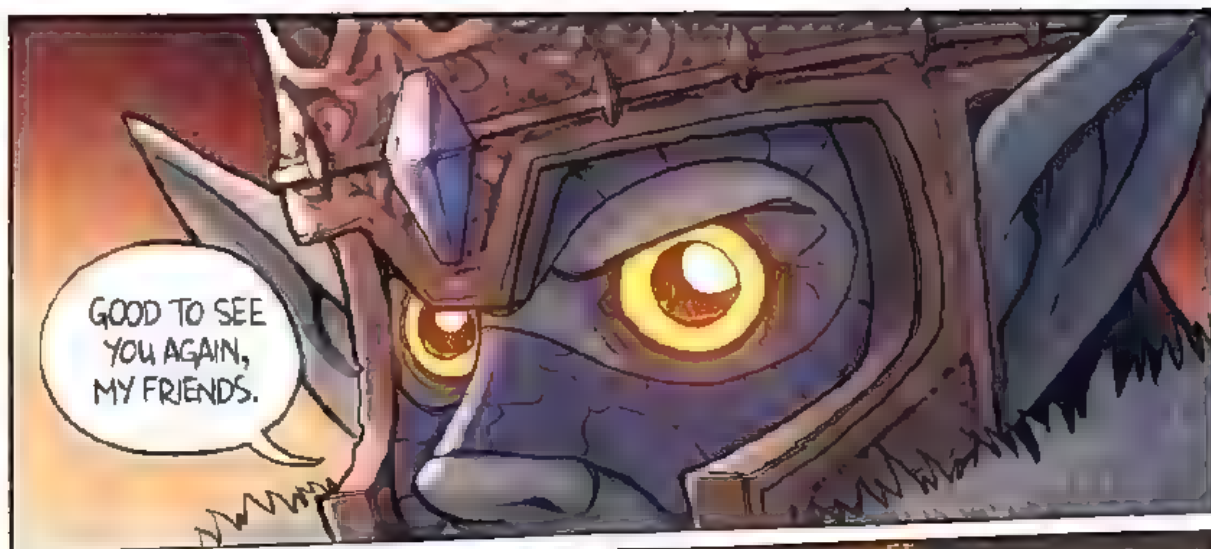




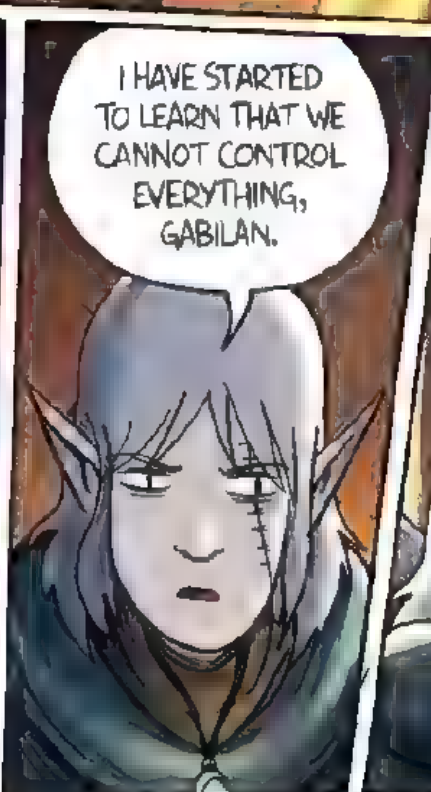
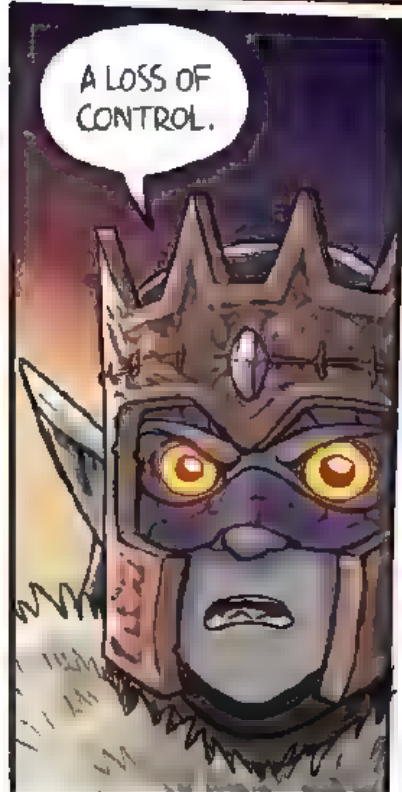
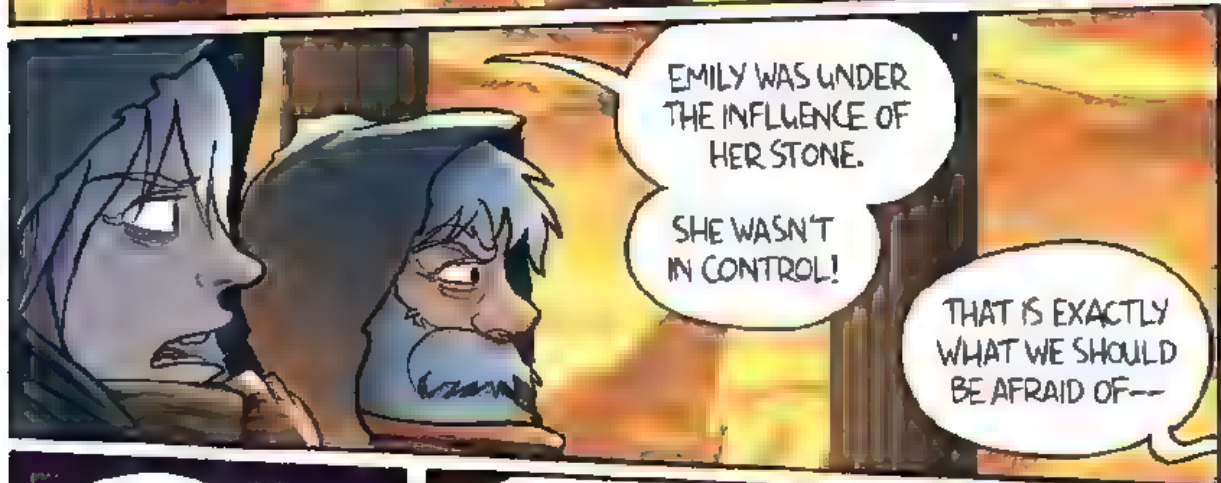


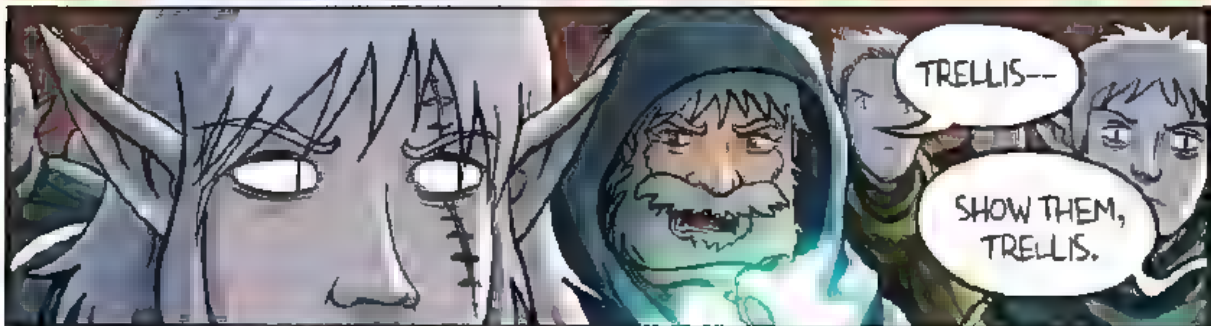




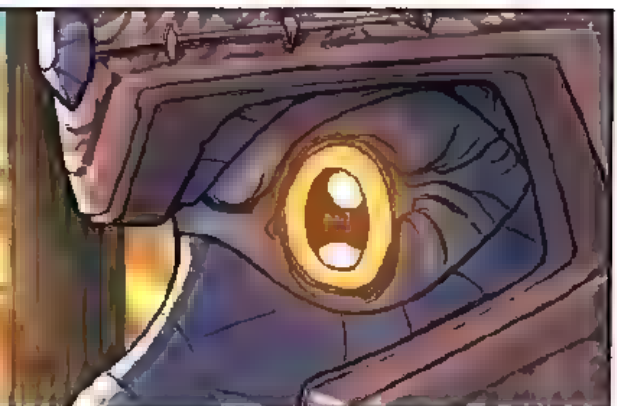
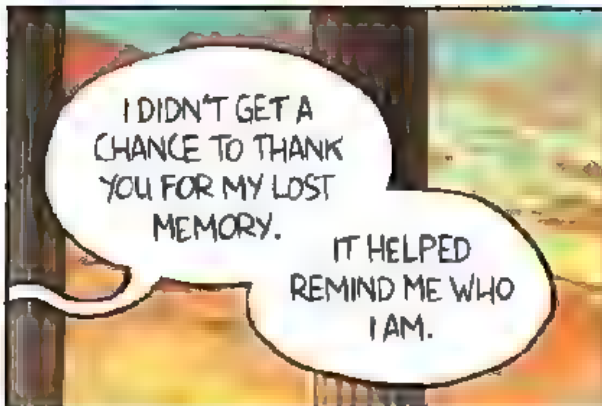
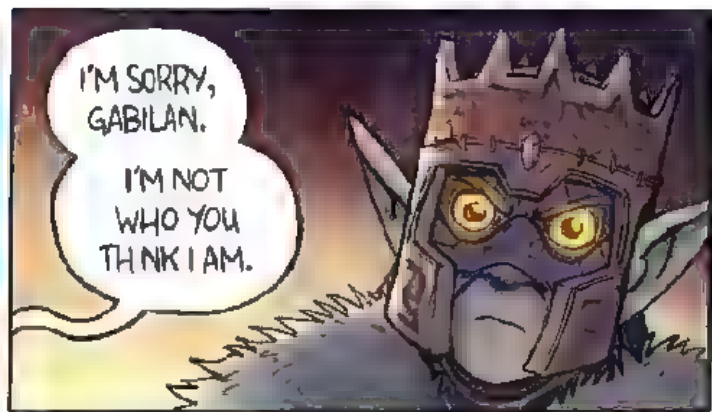
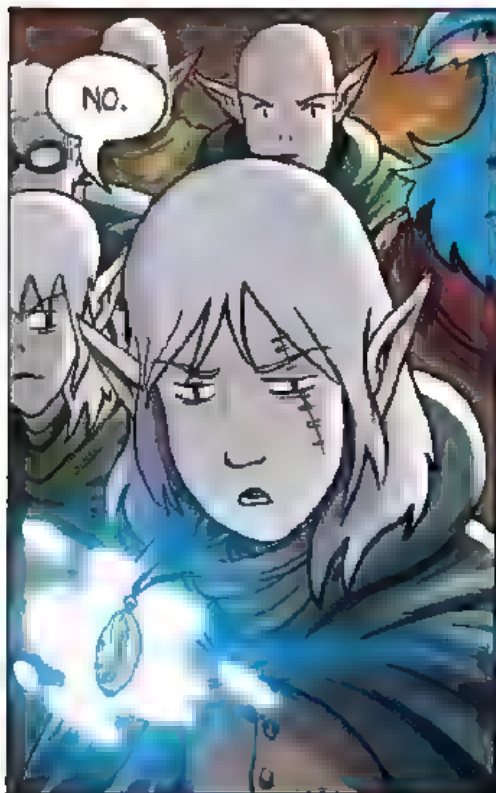


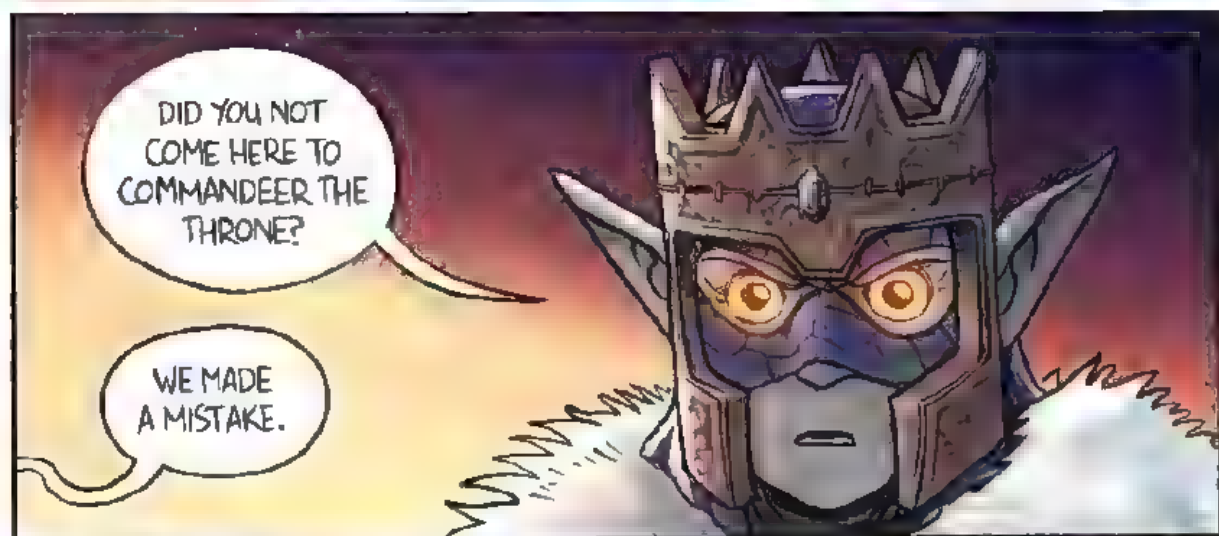
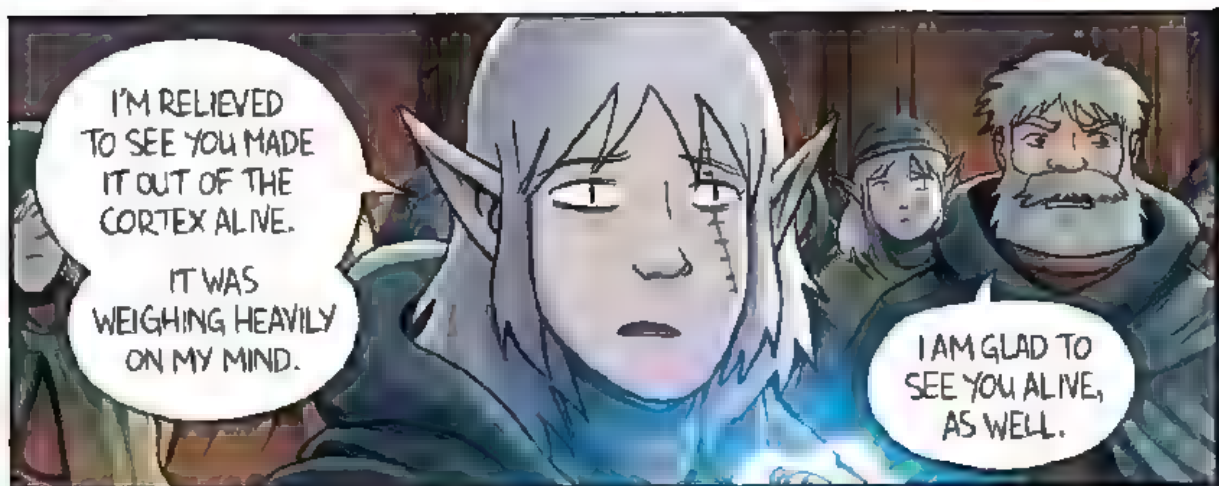




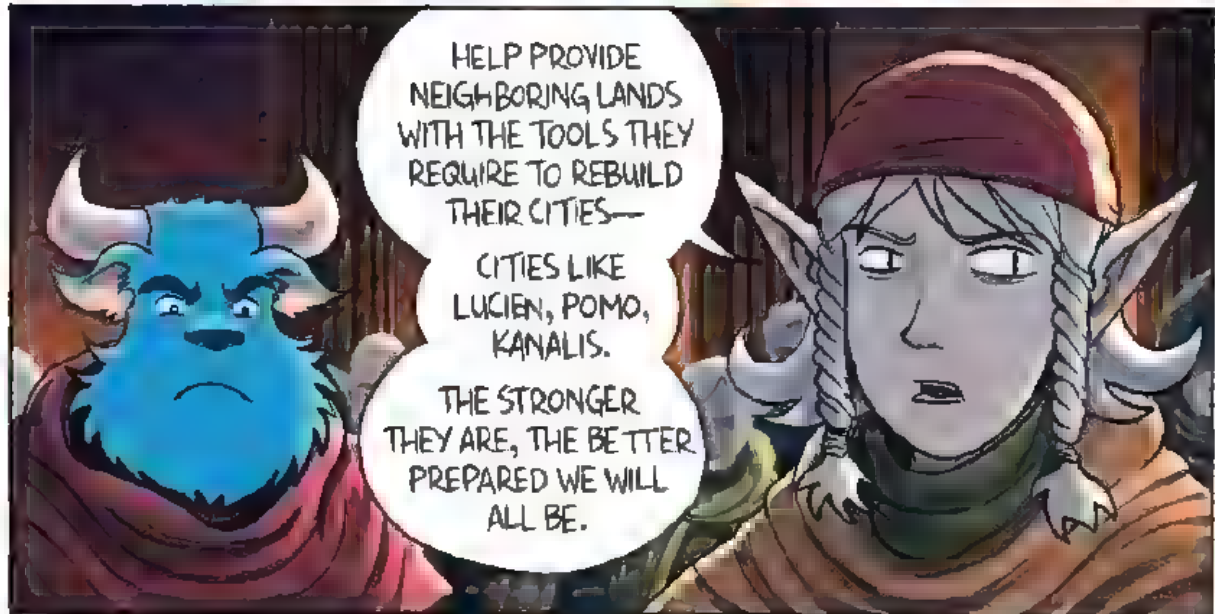


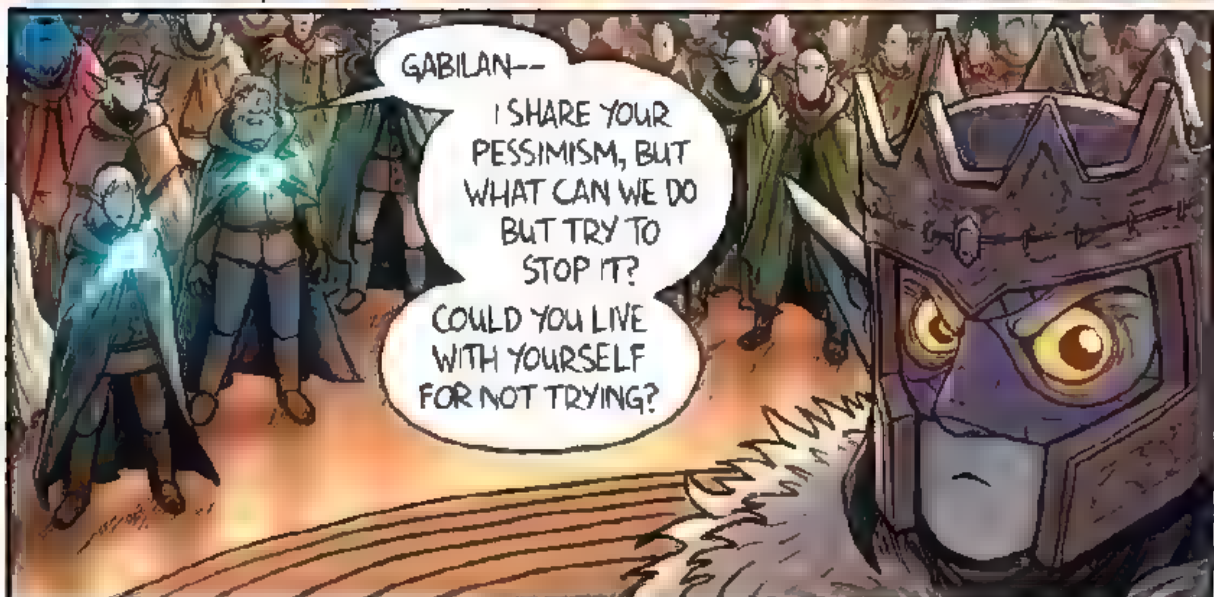




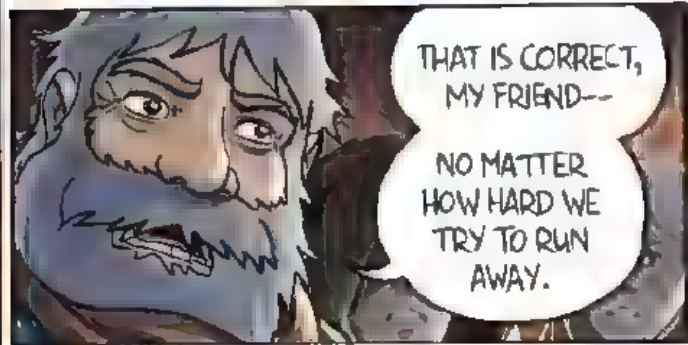


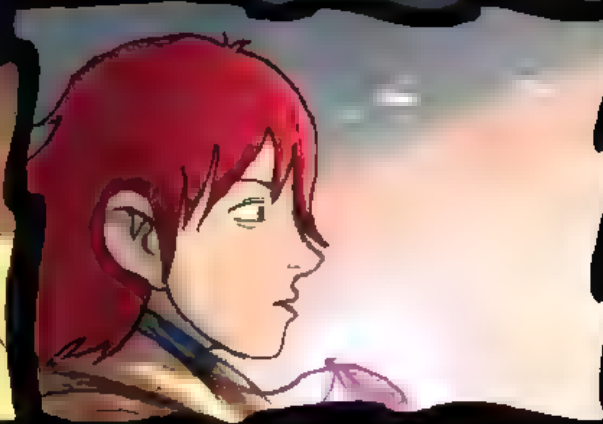
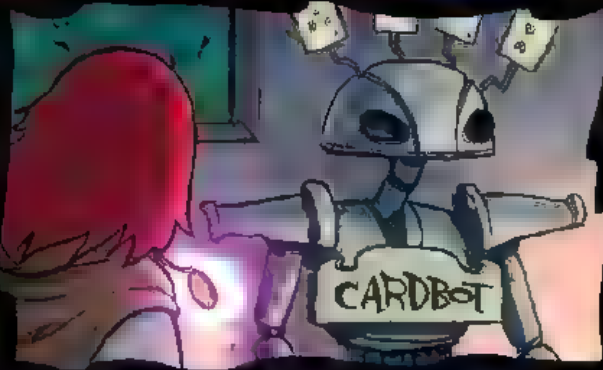




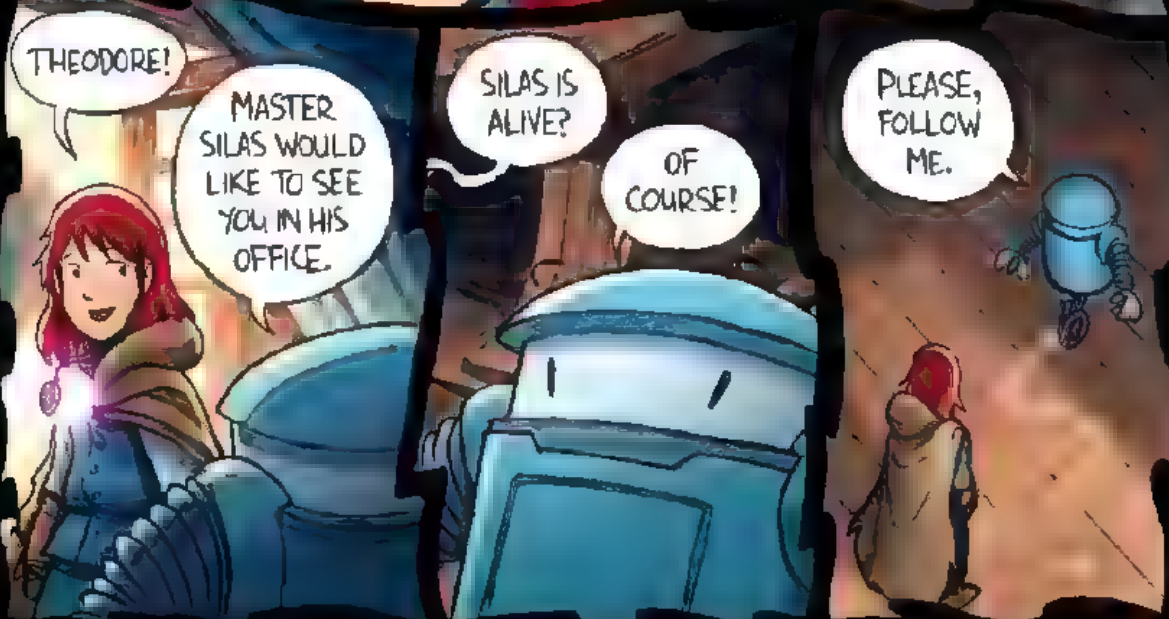


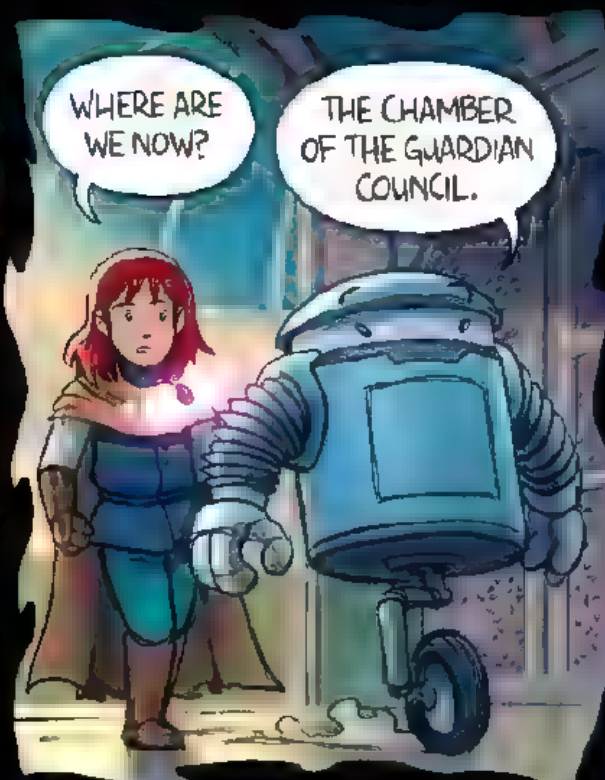












WHERE ARE WE NOW?

THE CHAMBER OF THE GUARDIAN COUNCIL.



OUR LEADERS CONVEENE HERE.

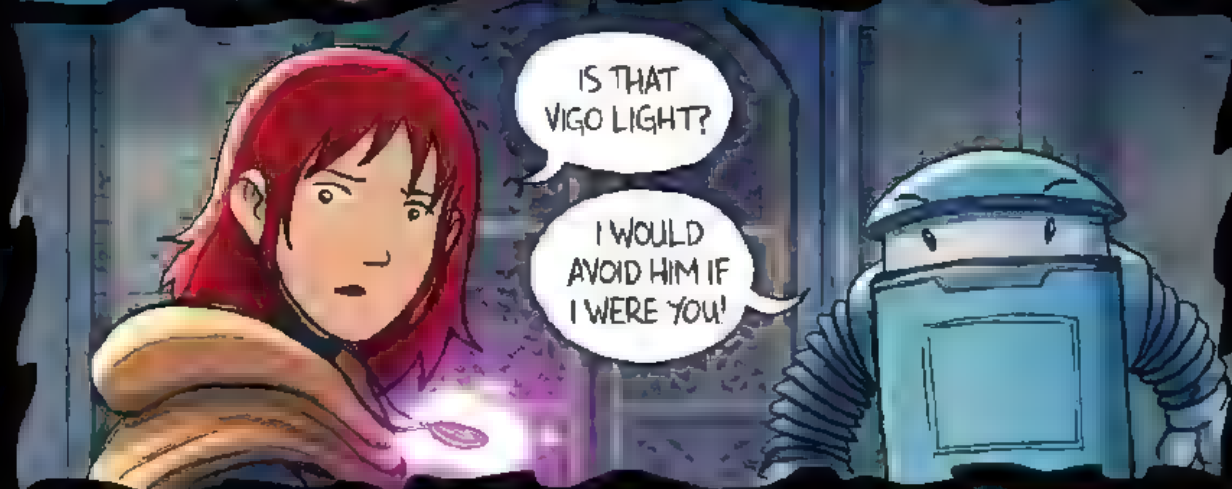
HE WON'T LISTEN TO US, VIGO.



WHAT DO WE DO NOW?



WE'LL MAKE HIM RECONSIDER.



IS THAT VIGO LIGHT?

I WOULD AVOID HIM IF I WERE YOU!



HE QUESTIONS  
MASTER SILAS  
TOO MUCH.

HE SEEDS  
SO MUCH  
DOUBT!

I THINK HE  
WILL EVENTUALLY  
SEE THINGS THE  
WAY SILAS DOES.

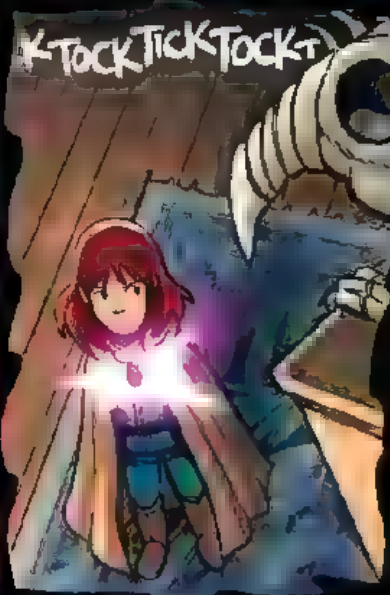
YOU ARE VERY  
OPEN-MINDED,  
MISS EMILY!

NO.  
I'VE JUST  
SEEN SOME  
THINGS.

THAT IS EXACTLY  
WHAT YOUR GREAT-  
GRANDFATHER  
WOULD SAY.

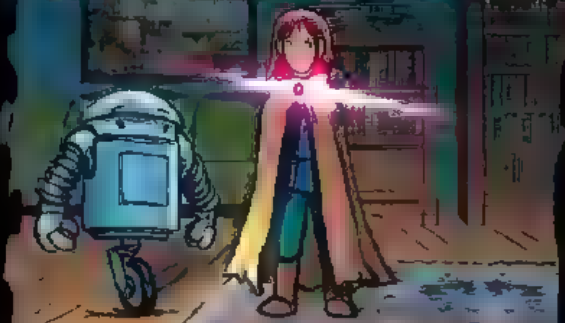
MASTER  
SILAS—

EMILY IS  
HERE TO SEE  
YOU.

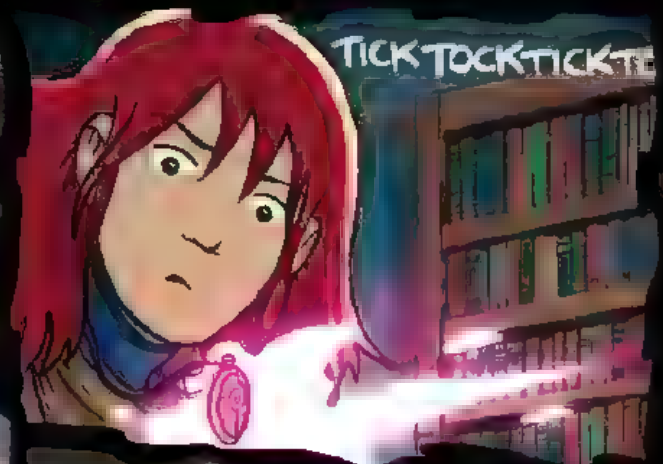




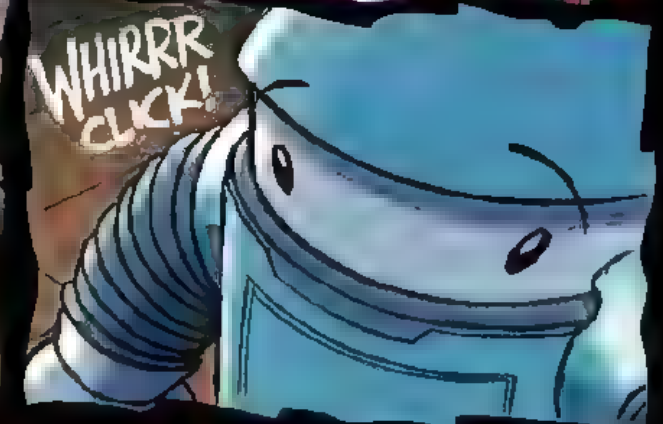
TICK TOCK TICK TOCK TICK TOCK



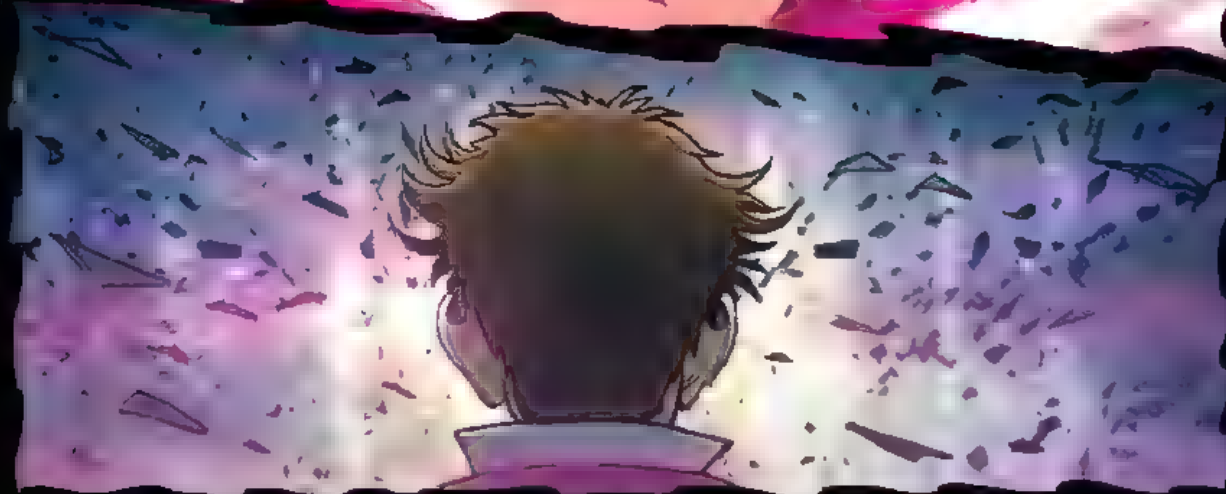
TICK TOCK TICK TE



WHIRRR  
CLICK!

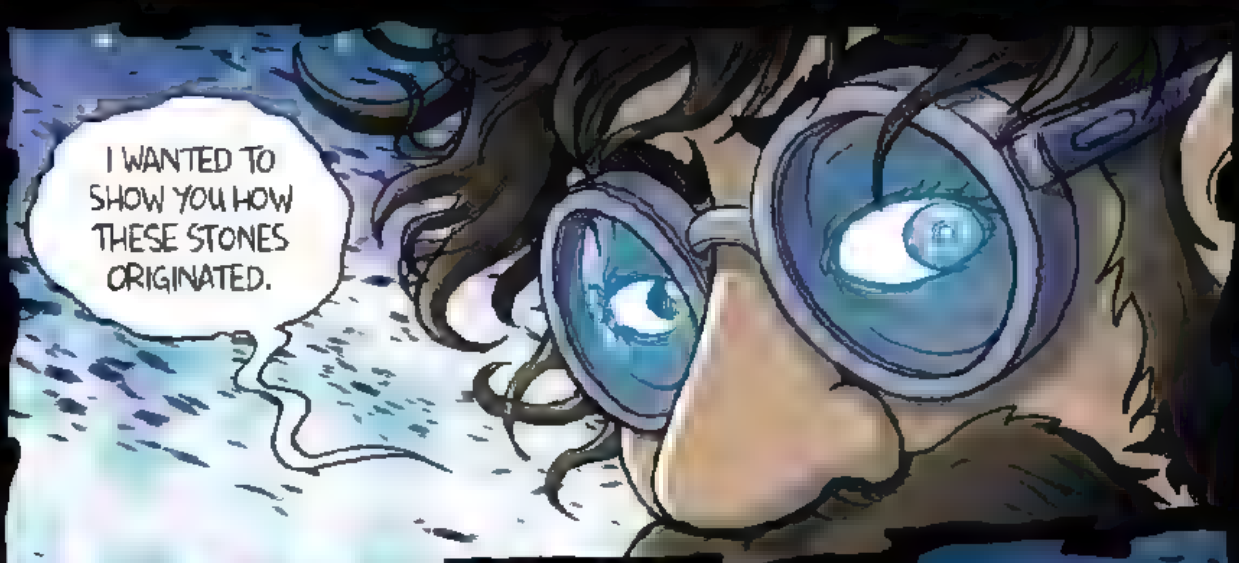


GRAY!!

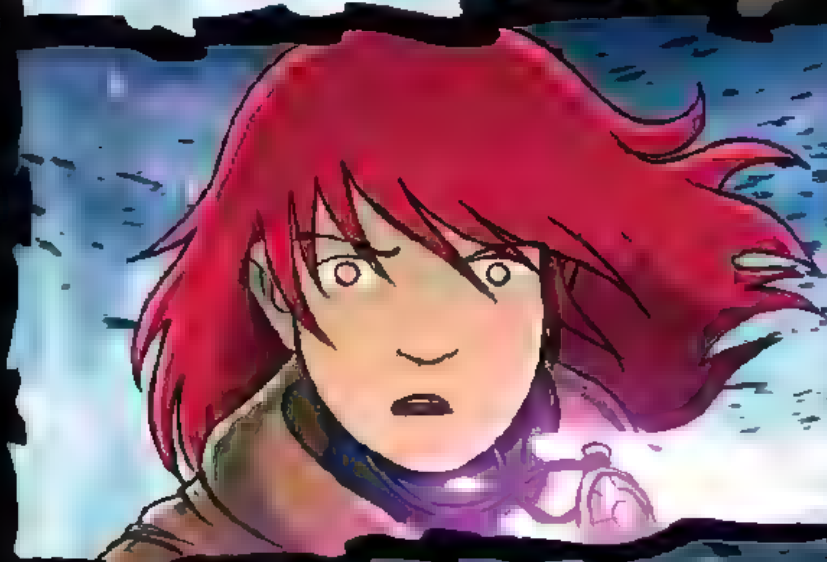










I WANTED TO  
SHOW YOU HOW  
THESE STONES  
ORIGINATED.



HOW MANY  
TIMES DO YOU  
BELIEVE YOU CAN  
FOOL ME, IKOL?

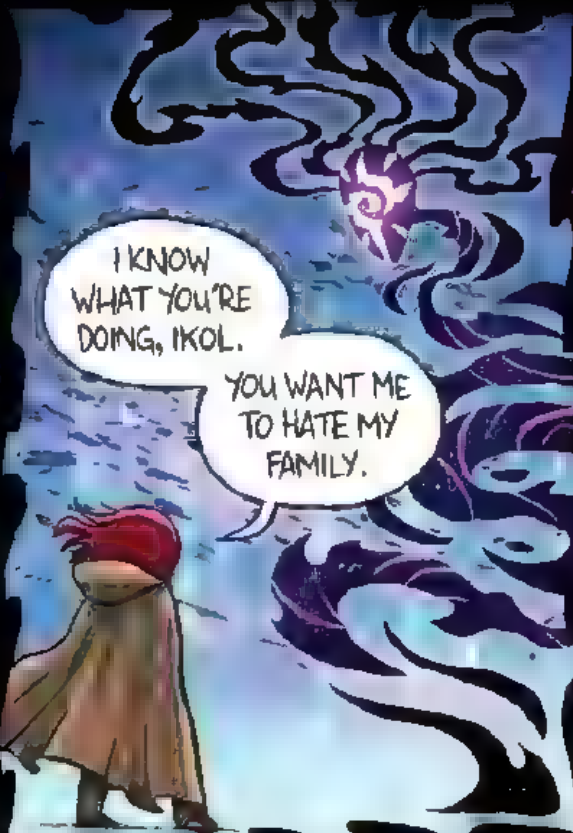


STOP HIDING  
BEHIND THE  
MASKS.




FAIR  
ENOUGH.






I KNOW  
WHAT YOU'RE  
DOING, IKOL.

YOU WANT ME  
TO HATE MY  
FAMILY.




YOU THINK  
THAT I HATE  
SILAS.



BUT I DON'T  
HATE ANYONE.

NOT EVEN  
YOU.



I HAVE ONLY  
EVER WANTED TO  
MAKE THINGS  
BETTER.

EVERYTHING I  
HAVE DONE HAS BEEN  
FOR THE BENEFIT OF  
ALL LIVING BEINGS.




NO.


YOU ACTED  
SELFISHLY.

YOU BELIEVE YOU  
KNOW WHAT'S BEST  
FOR OTHERS.

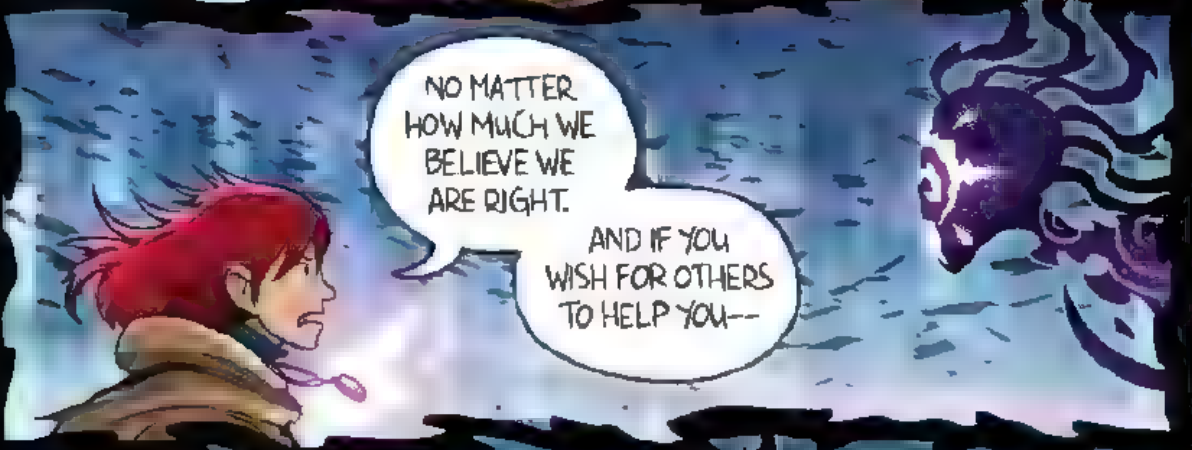
WHEN YOU DON'T  
EVEN KNOW HOW TO  
HELP YOURSELF.



YOU SHOULD  
THANK ME.

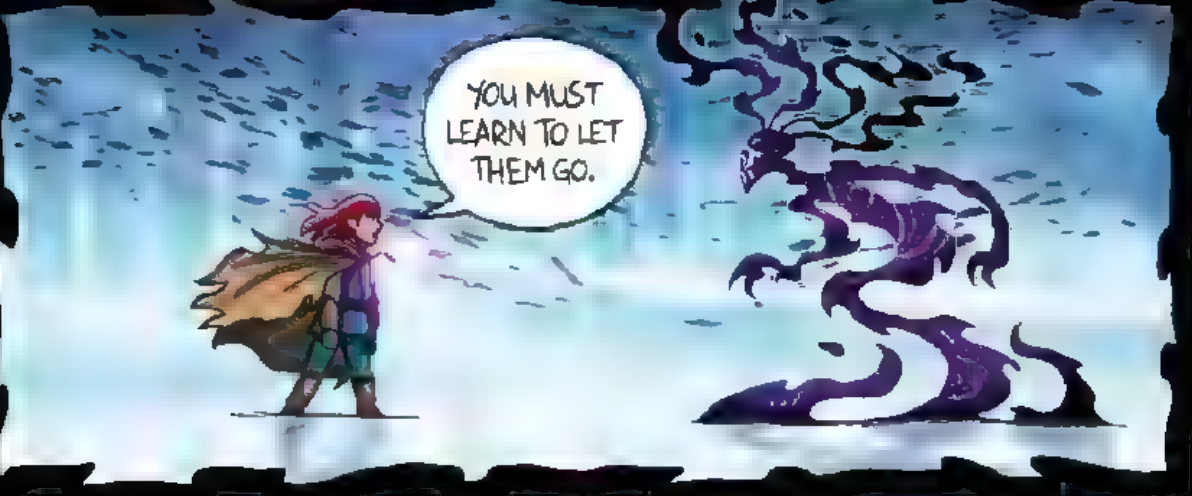


WE CAN'T CHANGE  
OUR REALITY TO SUIT  
OUR DREAMS, IKOL.



NO MATTER  
HOW MUCH WE  
BELIEVE WE  
ARE RIGHT.

AND IF YOU  
WISH FOR OTHERS  
TO HELP YOU--



YOU MUST  
LEARN TO LET  
THEM GO.





ARE YOU  
PREPARED TO  
DO WHAT IS  
RIGHT?

ARE YOU  
PREPARED  
TO LET GO?

LET ME  
GO, IKOL.

LET  
GO.



BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP BEEP

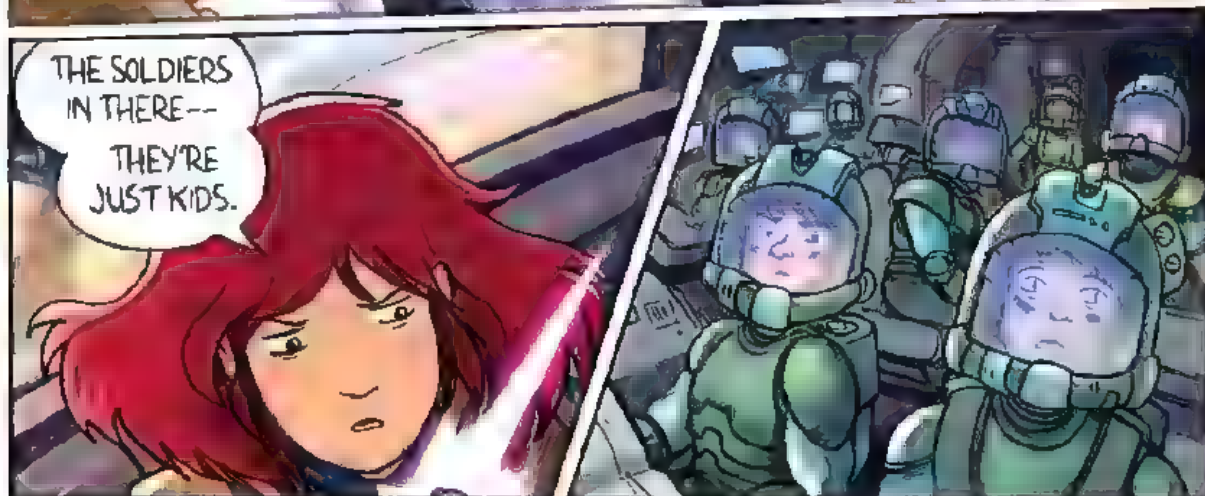
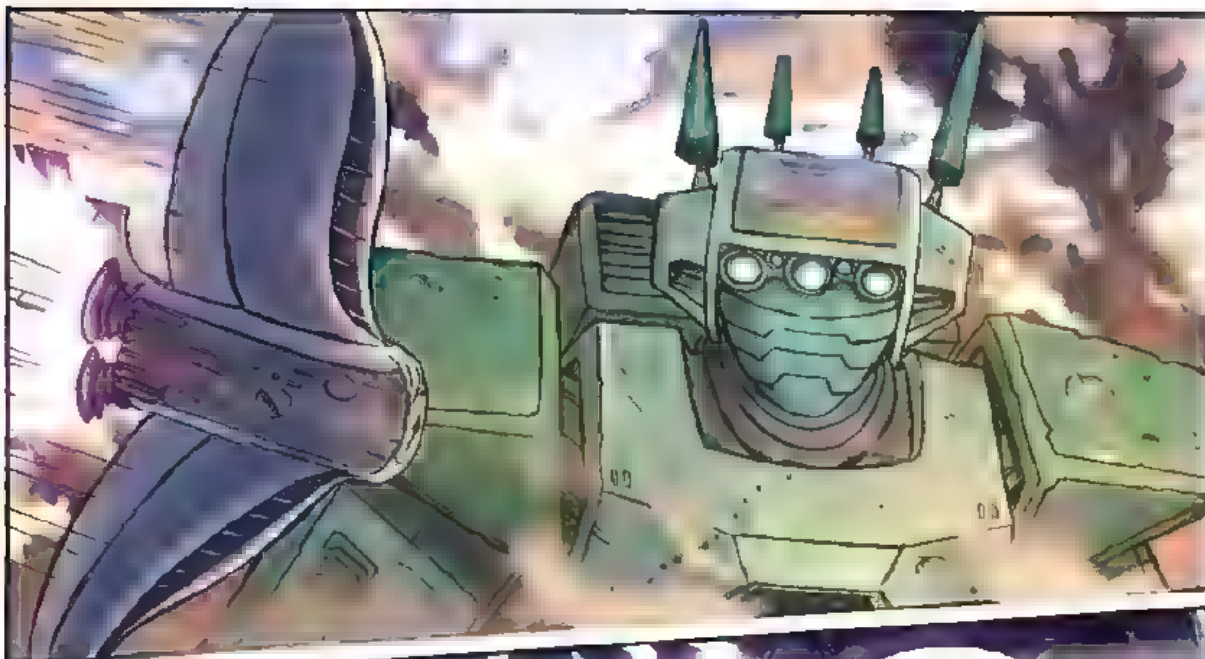


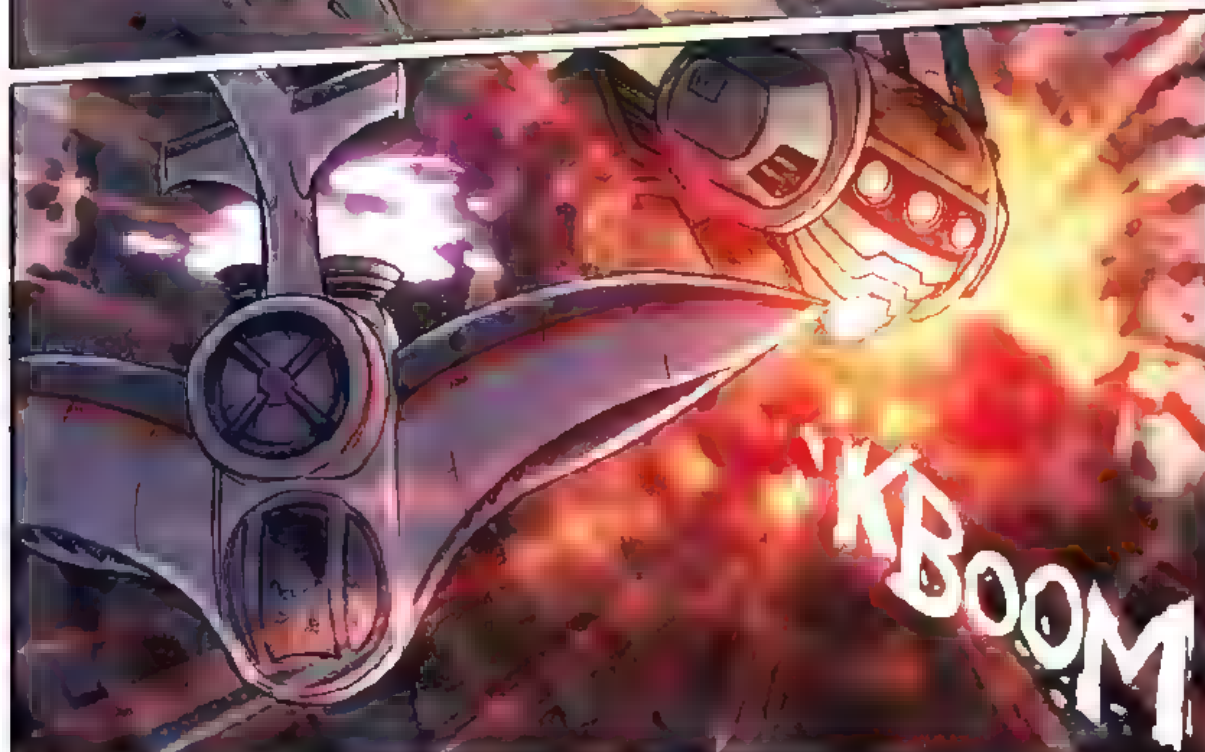
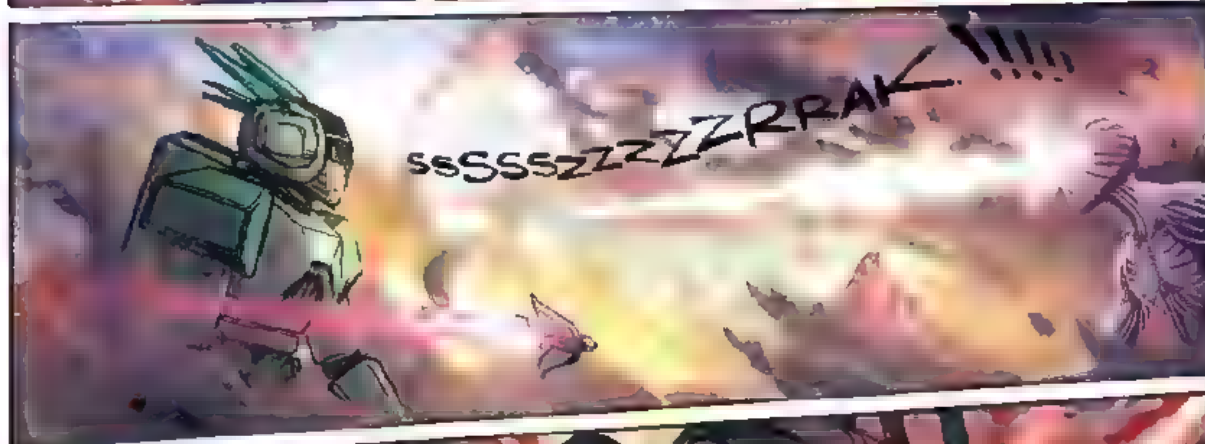
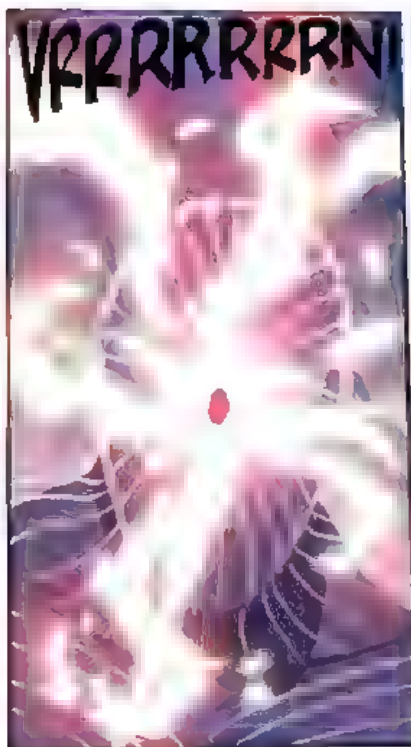






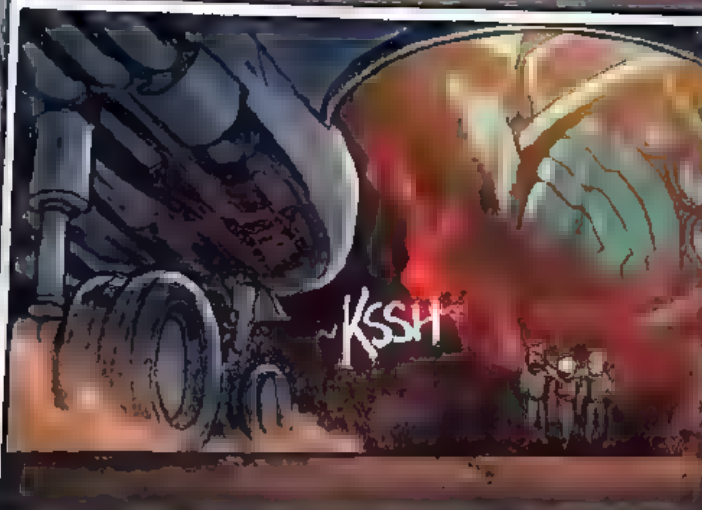
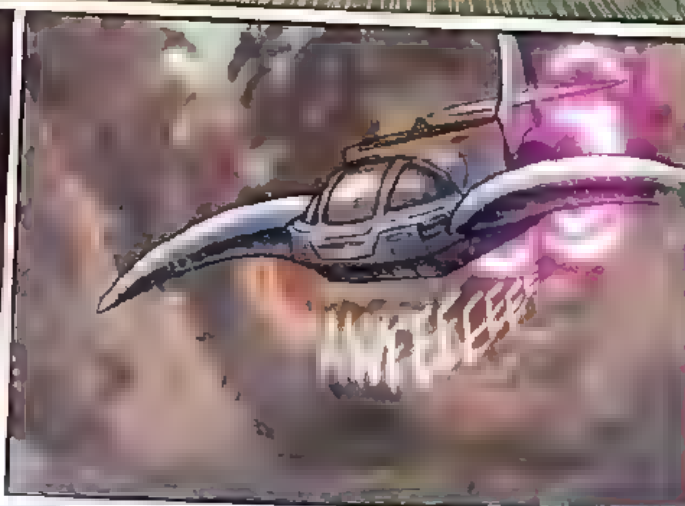
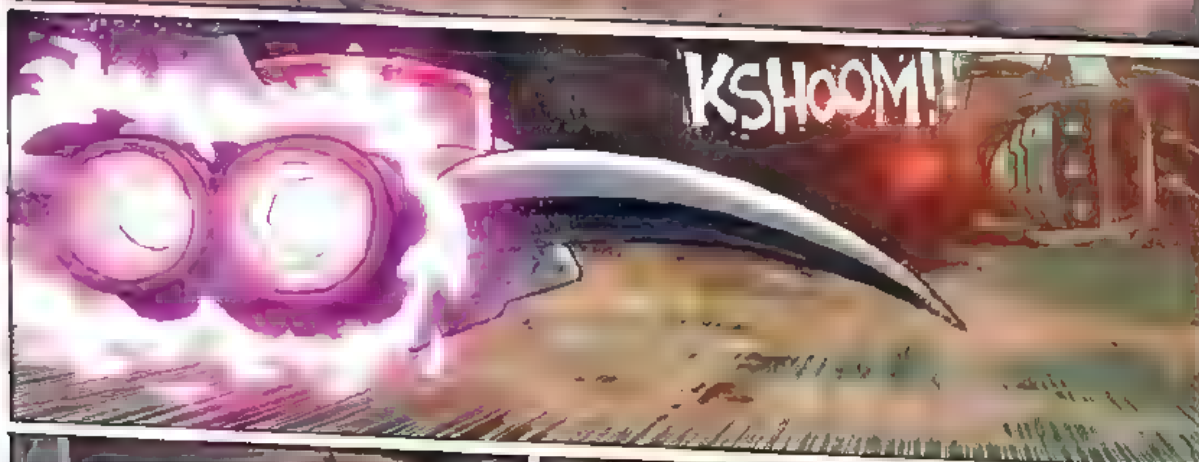
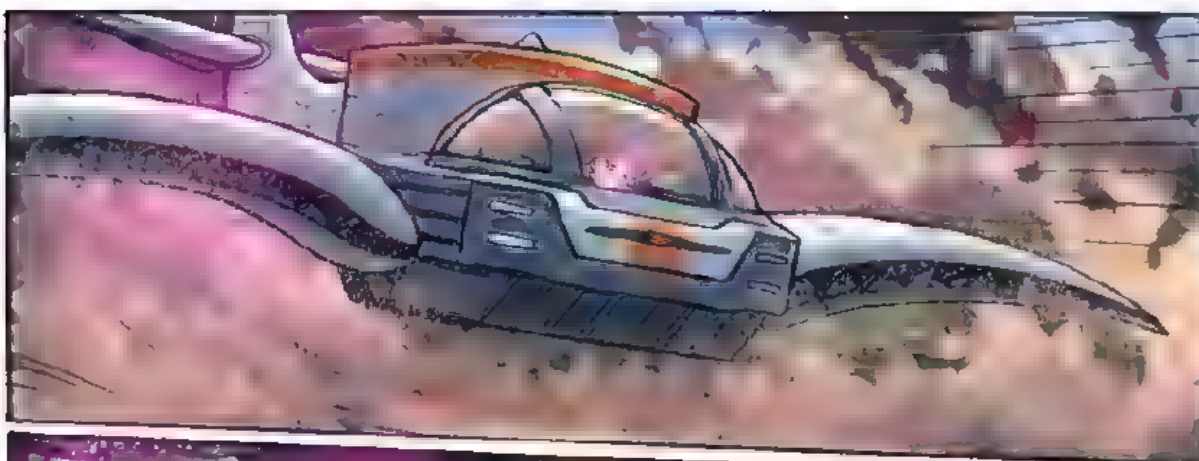




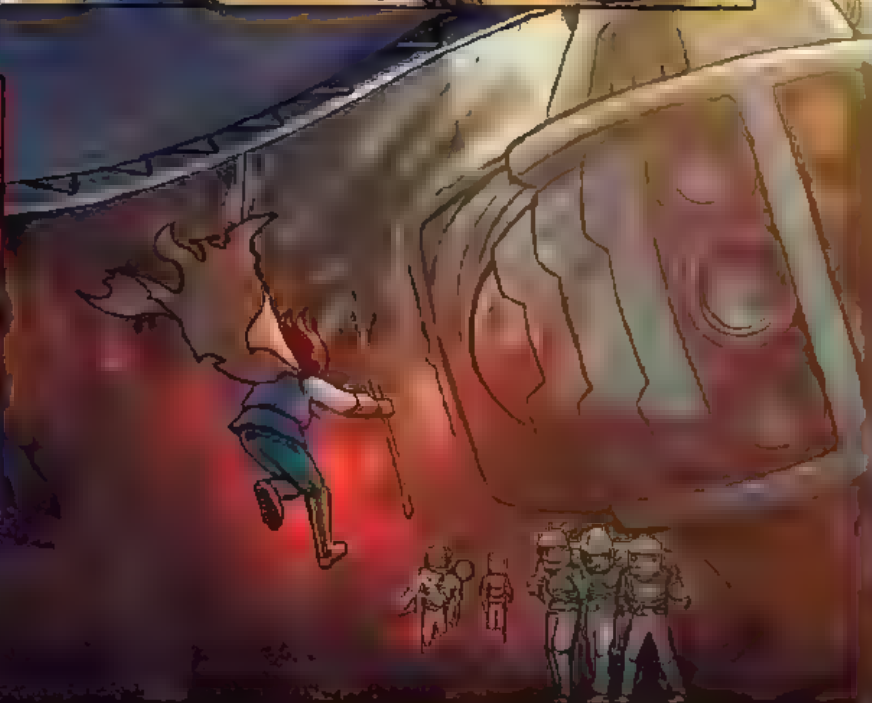
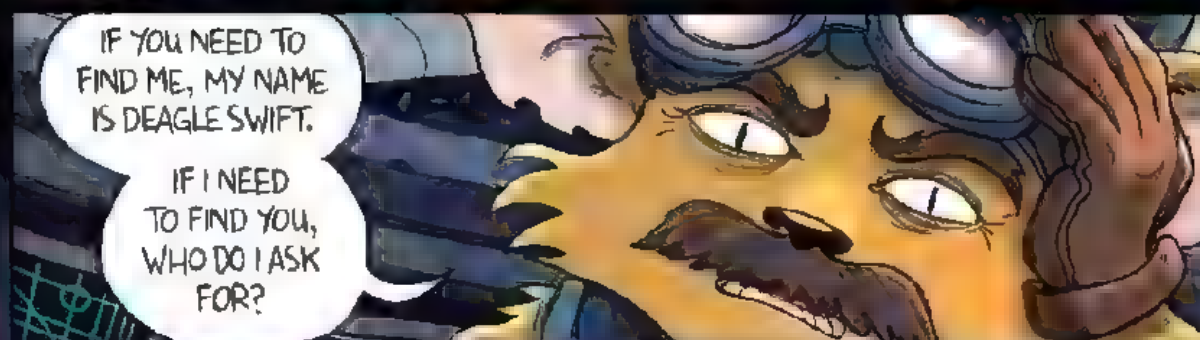
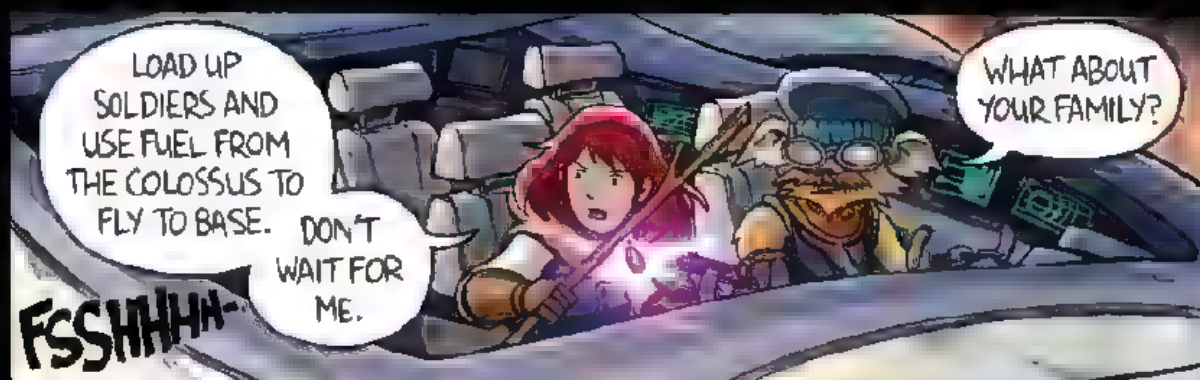


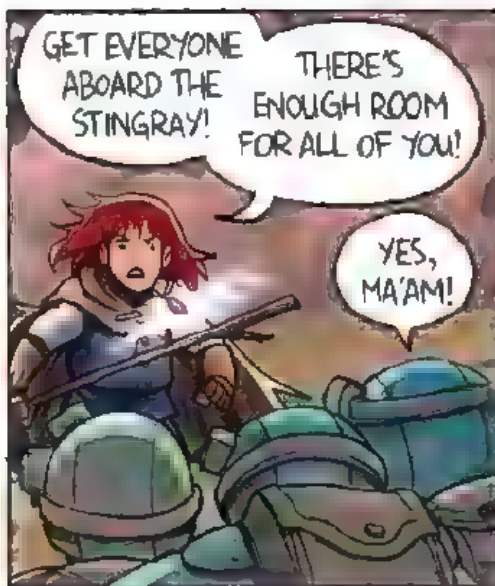












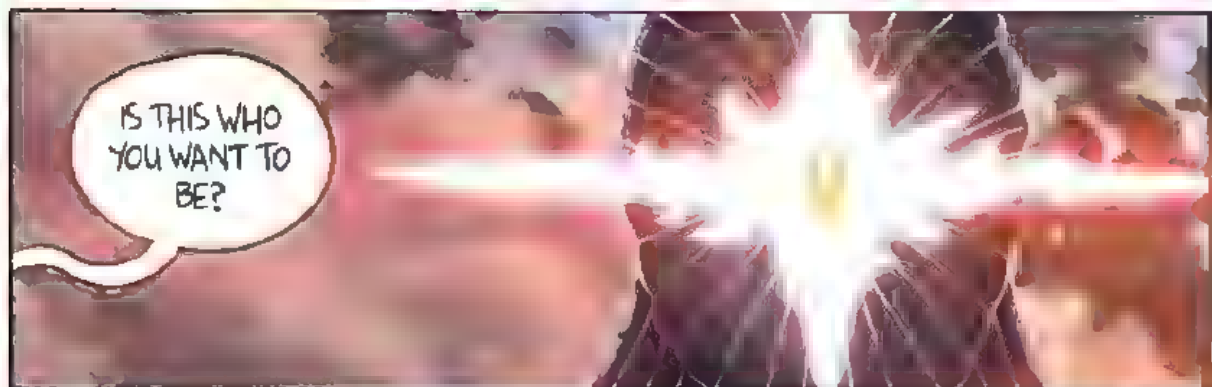




I DON'T  
WANT TO  
FIGHT.  
BUT I WILL  
TAKE YOU DOWN  
IF I HAVE TO.



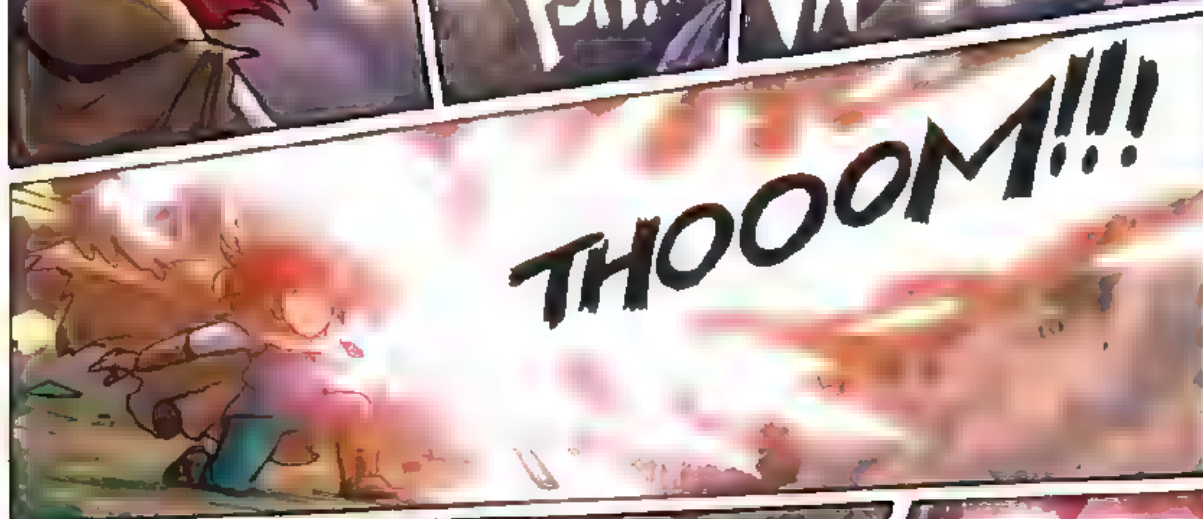
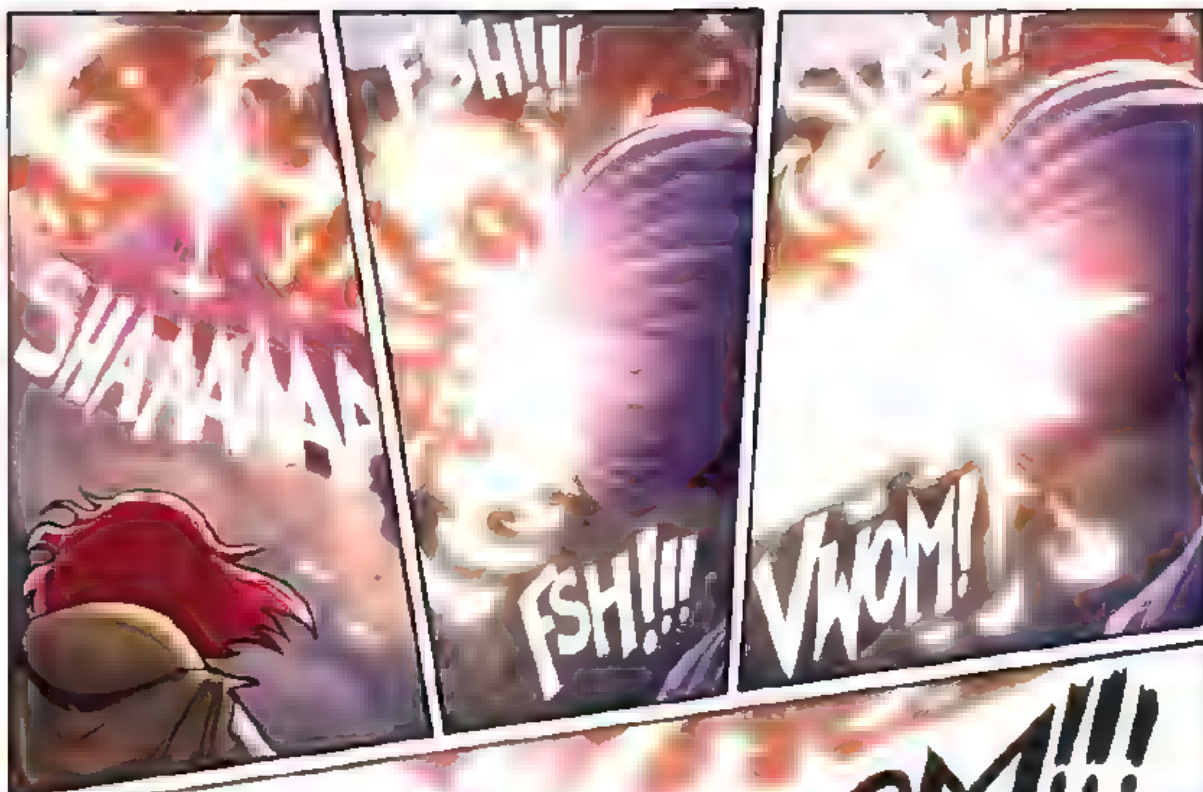
LOOK AT  
THE DAMAGE THAT  
YOU'VE DONE--  
AND THE HURT  
THAT YOU'VE  
CAUSED.



IS THIS WHO  
YOU WANT TO  
BE?



YOU COULD HAVE  
CHOSEN TO BE A  
BUILDER, LIKE THE  
STONEKEEPERS WHO  
CAME BEFORE YOU--  
BUT YOU  
DECIDED TO BE  
A DESTROYER.

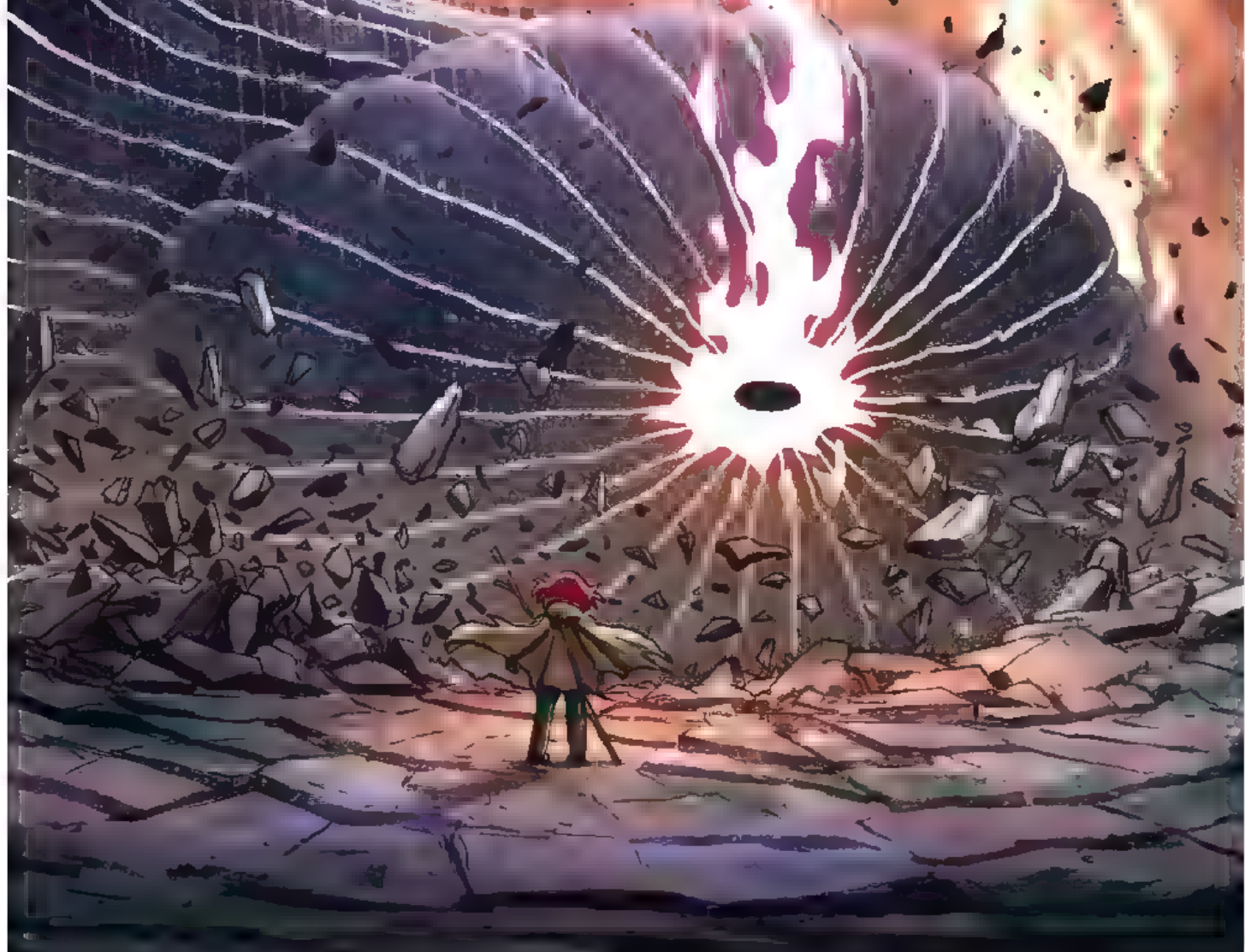




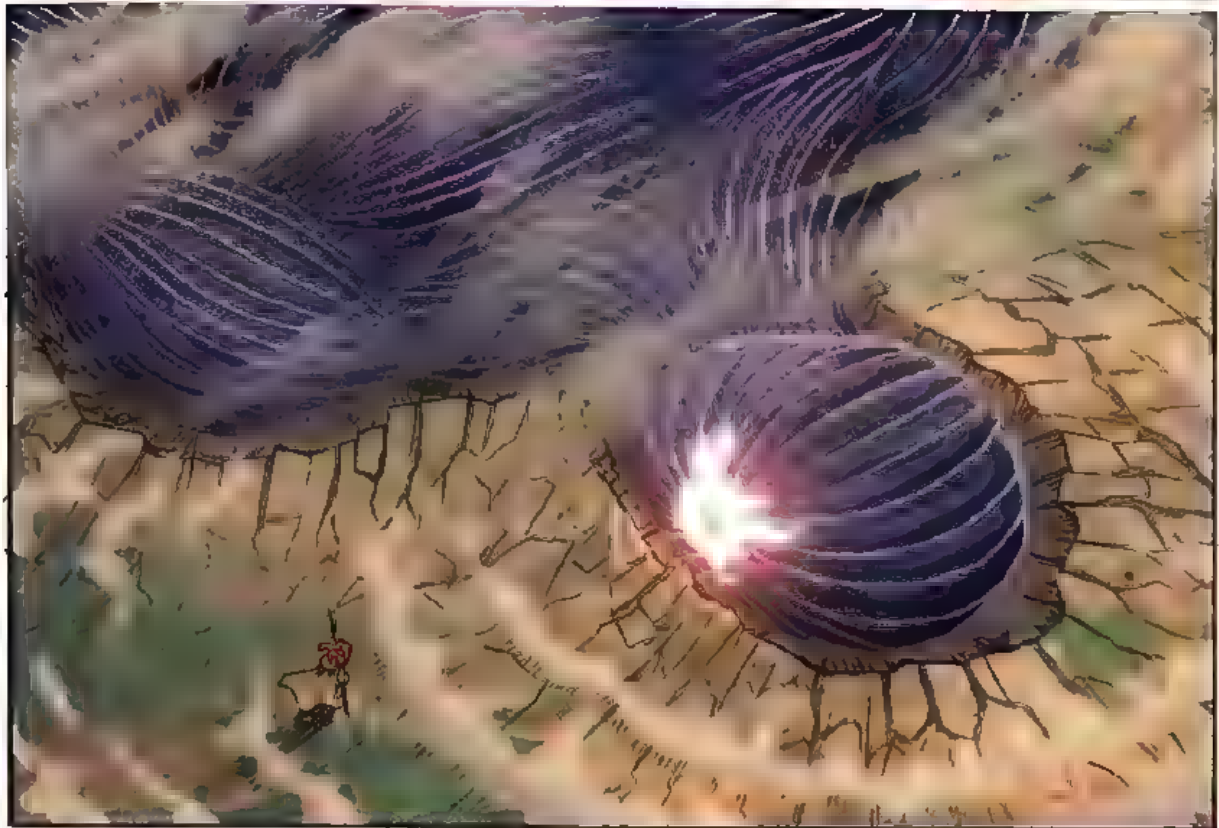
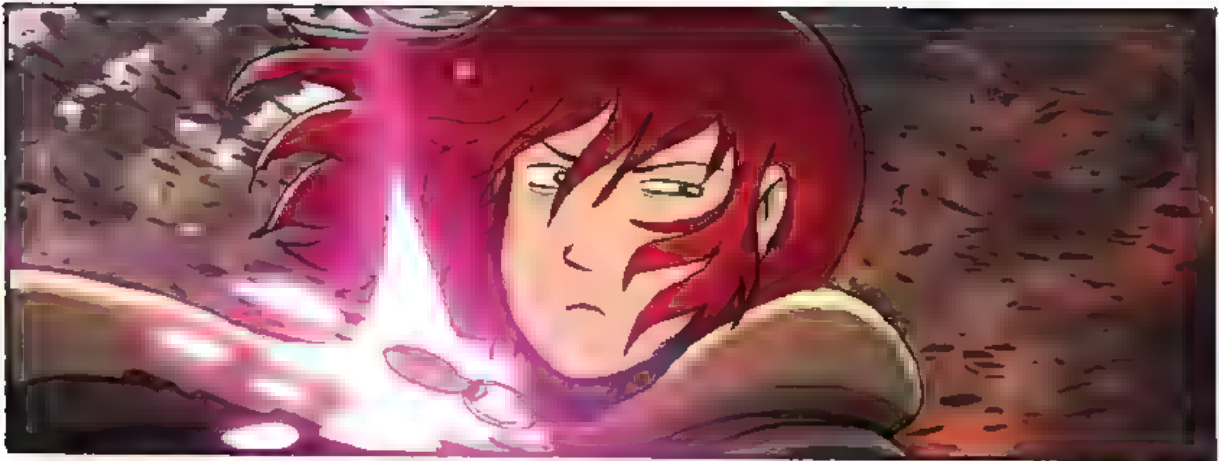


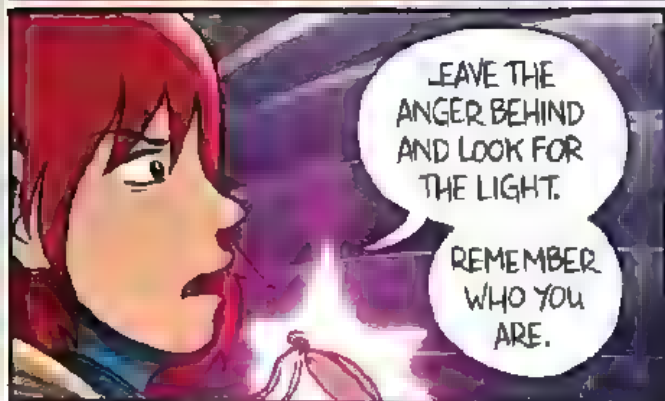


**KOOOM!!!**

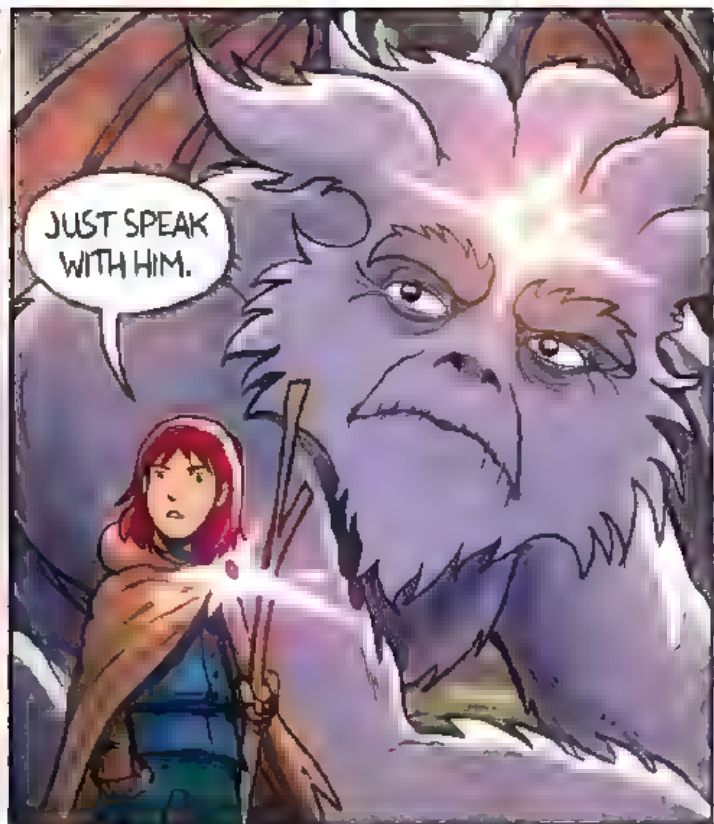


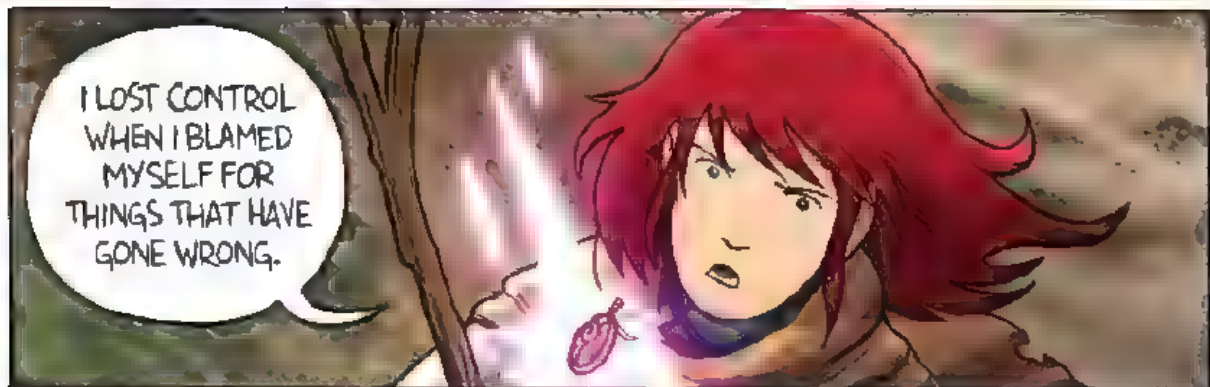
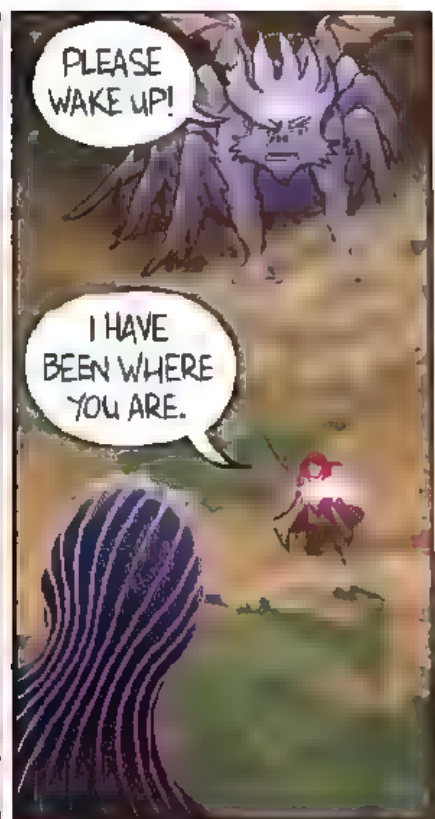
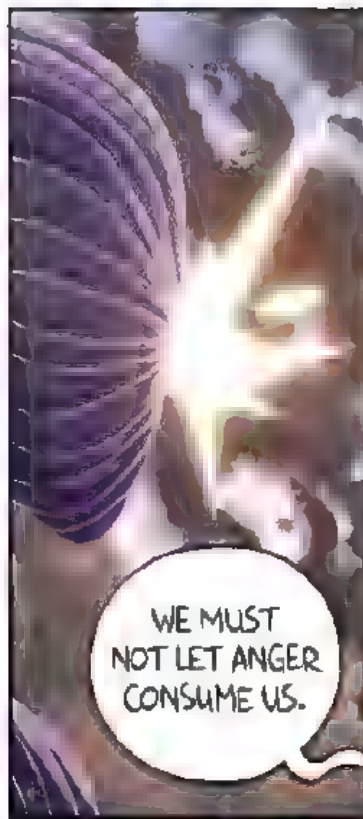
















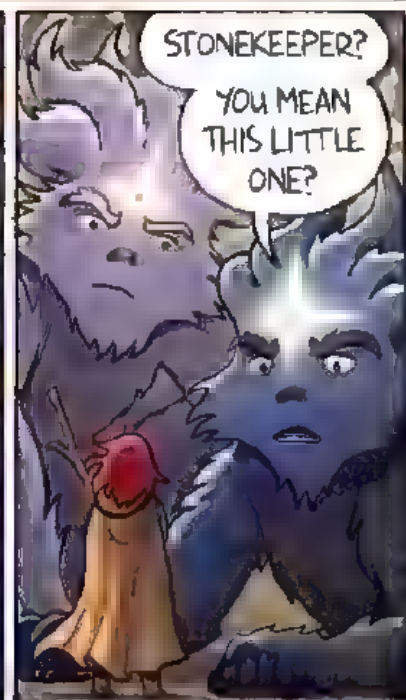
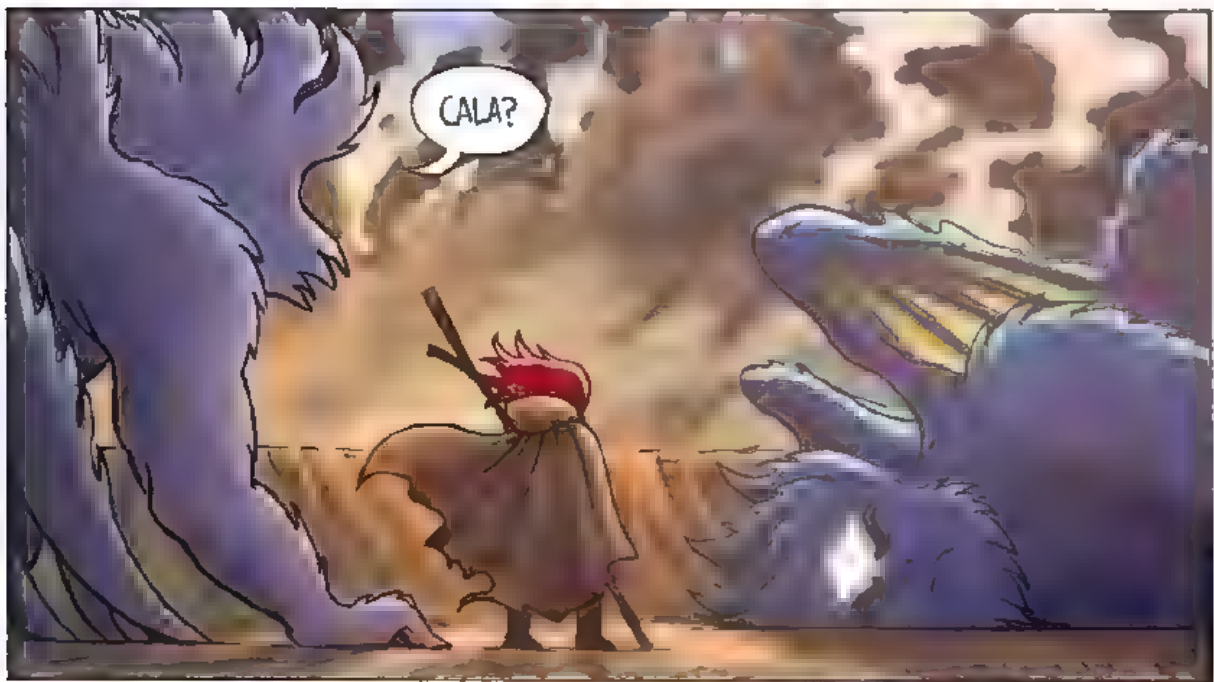


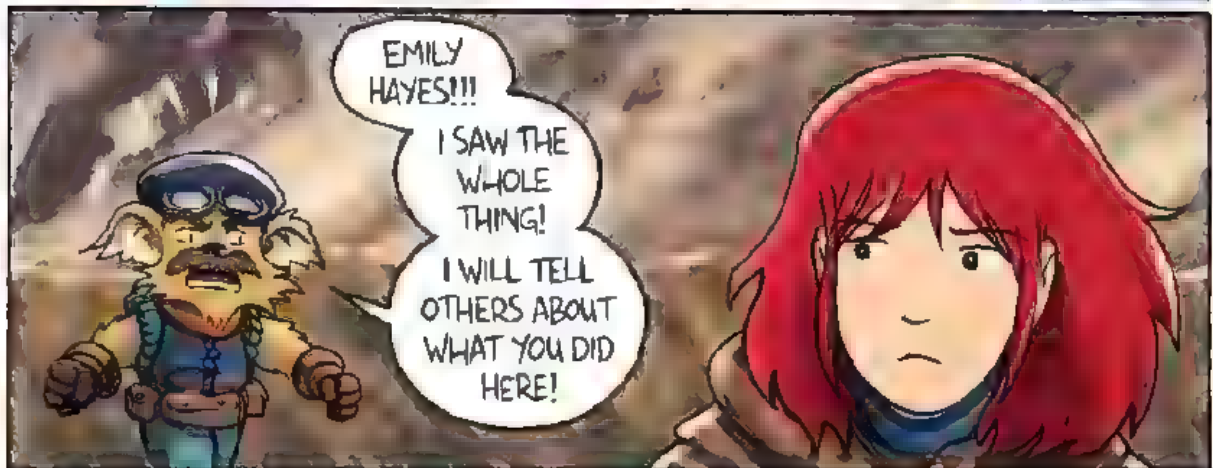
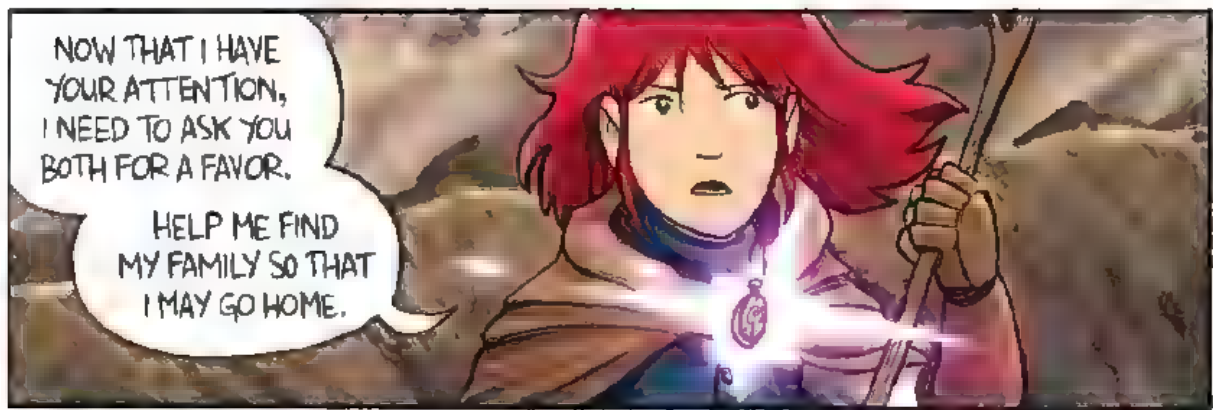






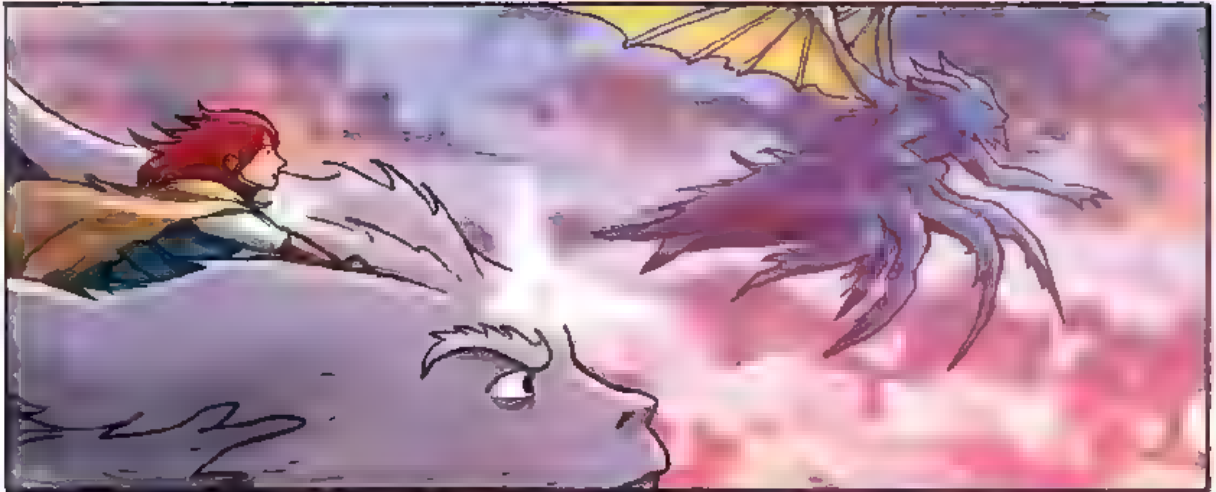
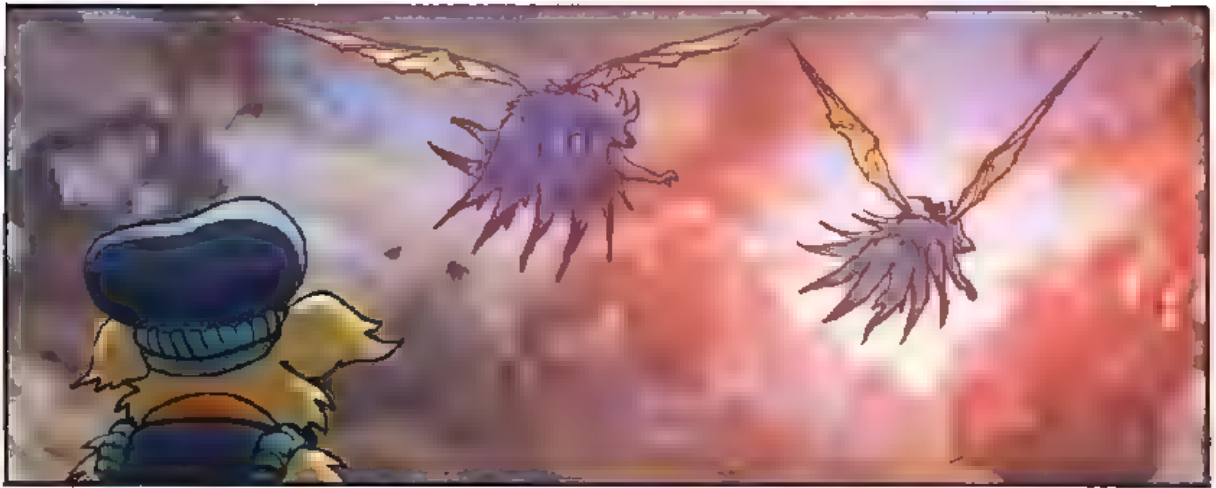




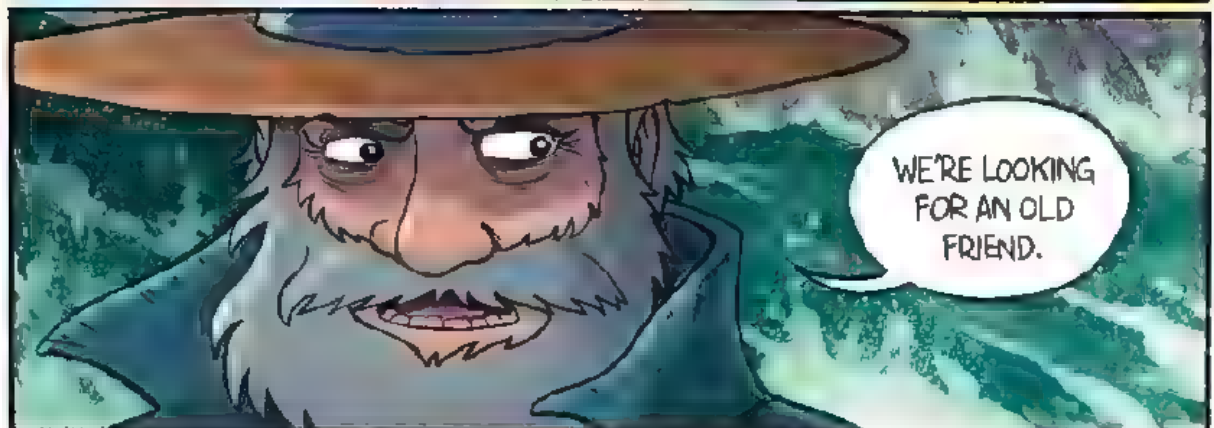


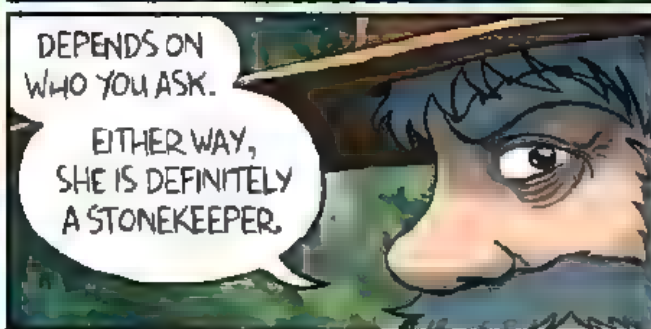




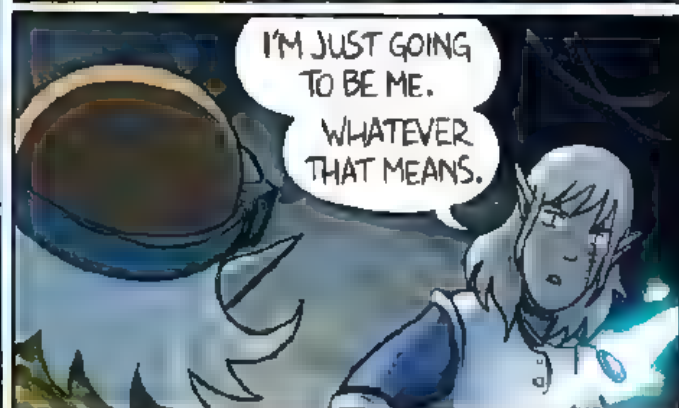


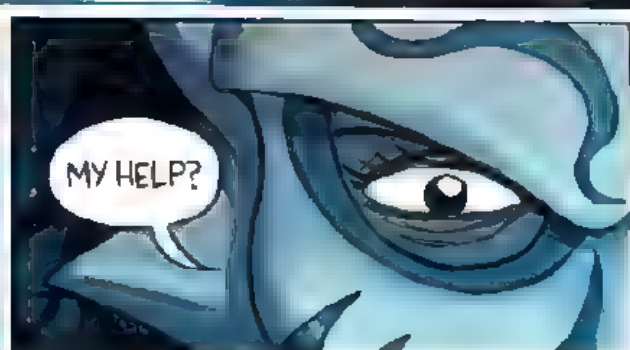
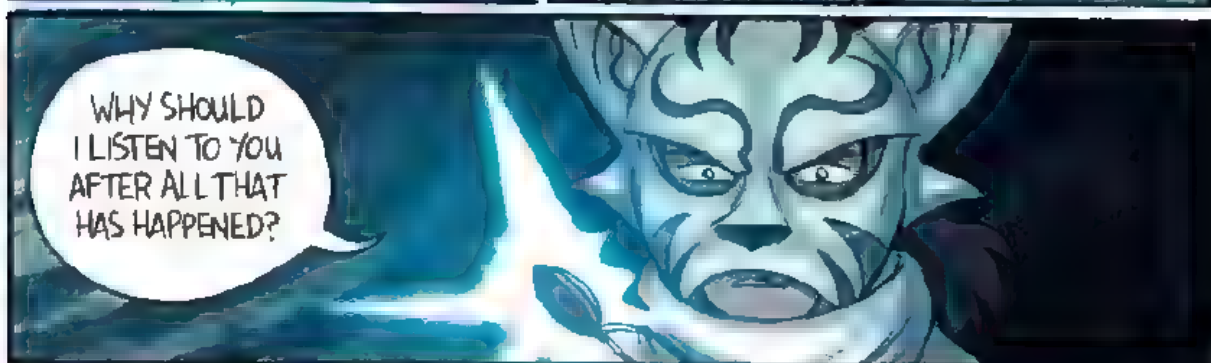




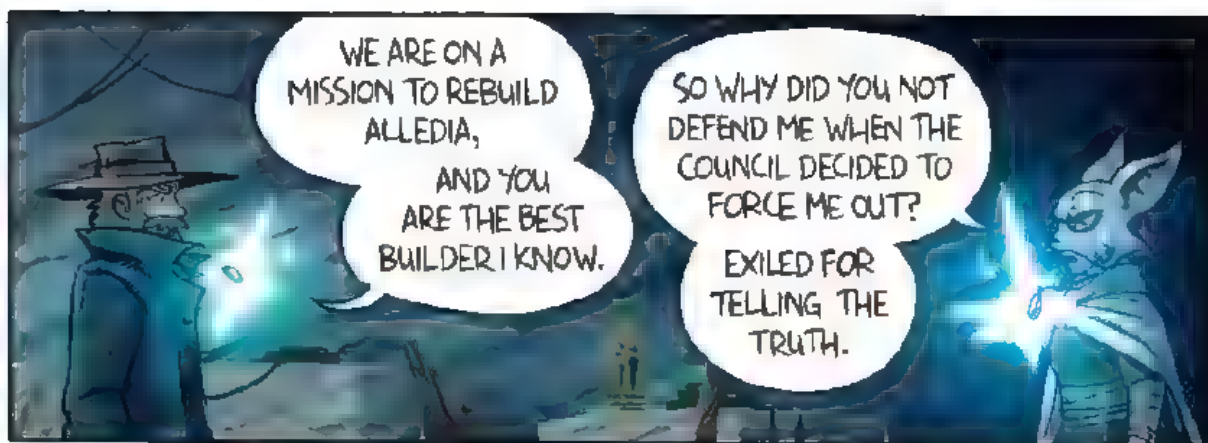












WE ARE ON A  
MISSION TO REBUILD  
ALLEDIA,  
AND YOU  
ARE THE BEST  
BUILDER I KNOW.

SO WHY DID YOU NOT  
DEFEND ME WHEN THE  
COUNCIL DECIDED TO  
FORCE ME OUT?

EXILED FOR  
TELLING THE  
TRUTH.



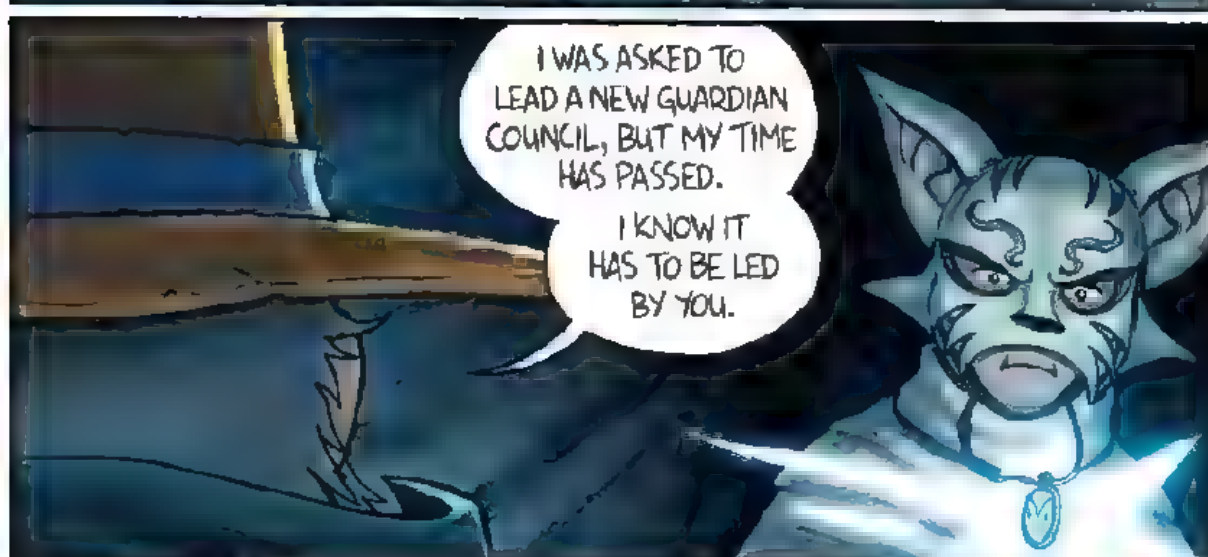
WHEN I QUESTIONED  
THE COUNCIL, THEY PUT  
ALL THEIR FAITH IN MAX,  
AND LOOK WHERE IT  
GOT THEM.

YOU AGREED  
WITH THEM. YOU  
WERE ON THEIR  
SIDE.



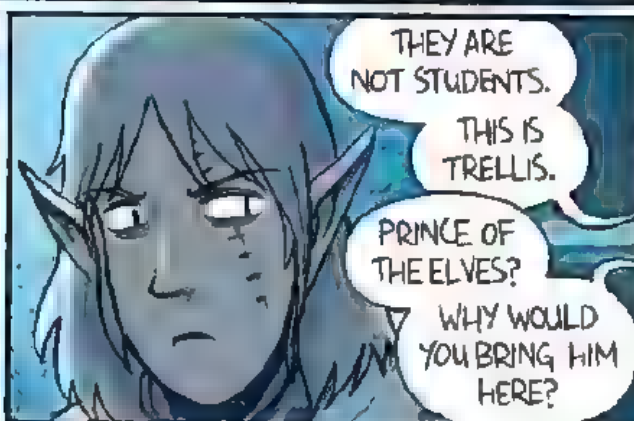
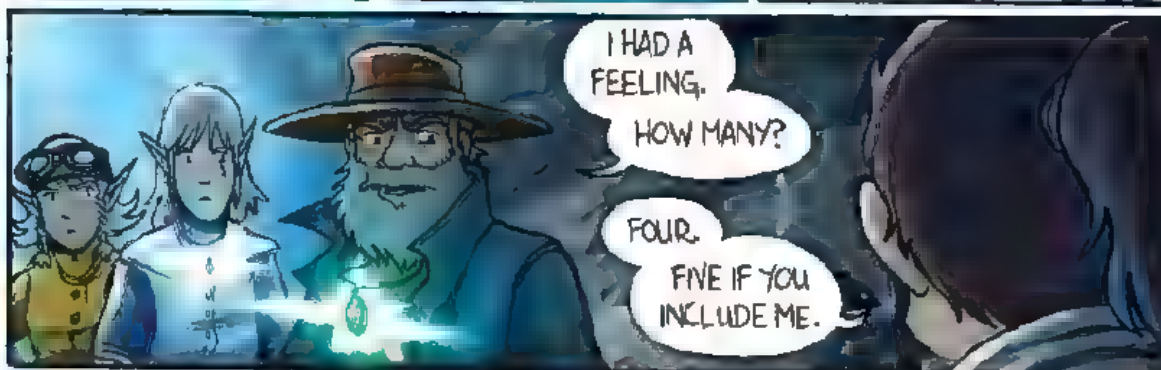
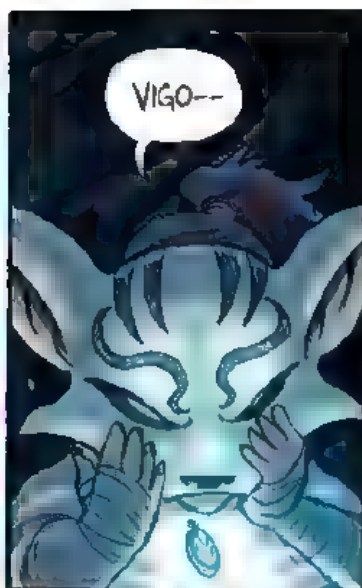
ONE OF MY BIGGEST  
MISTAKES, AND FOR  
THAT, I AM SORRY.

I'M DETERMINED  
NOT TO MAKE THE  
SAME MISTAKE AGAIN.

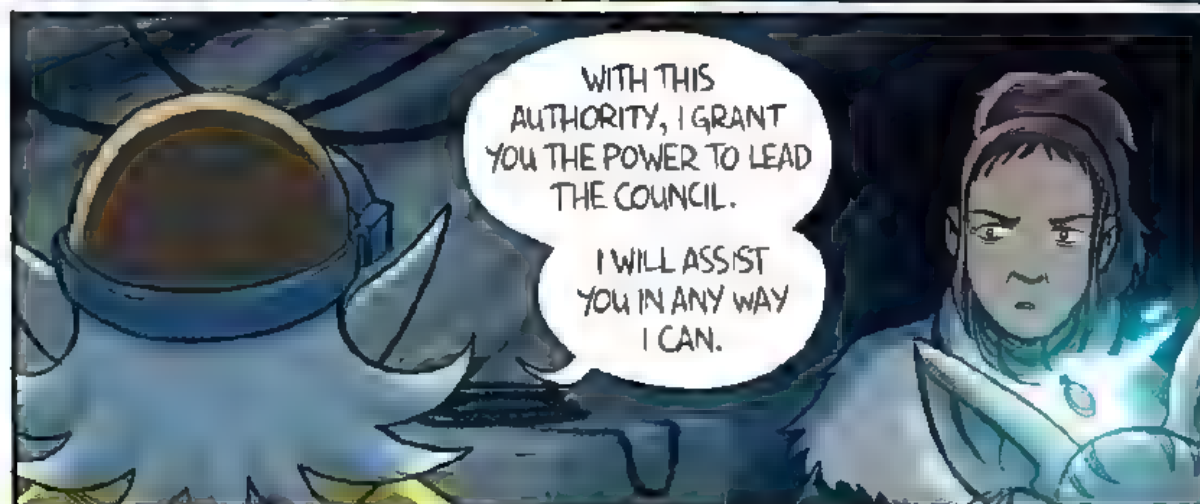
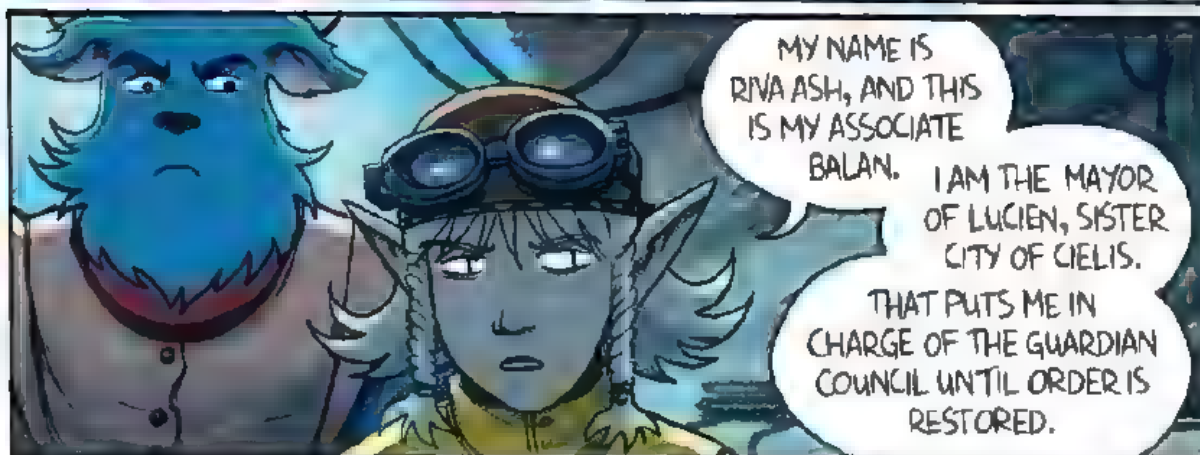
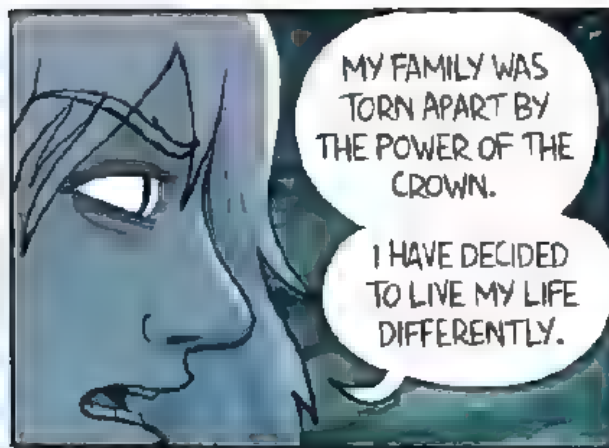
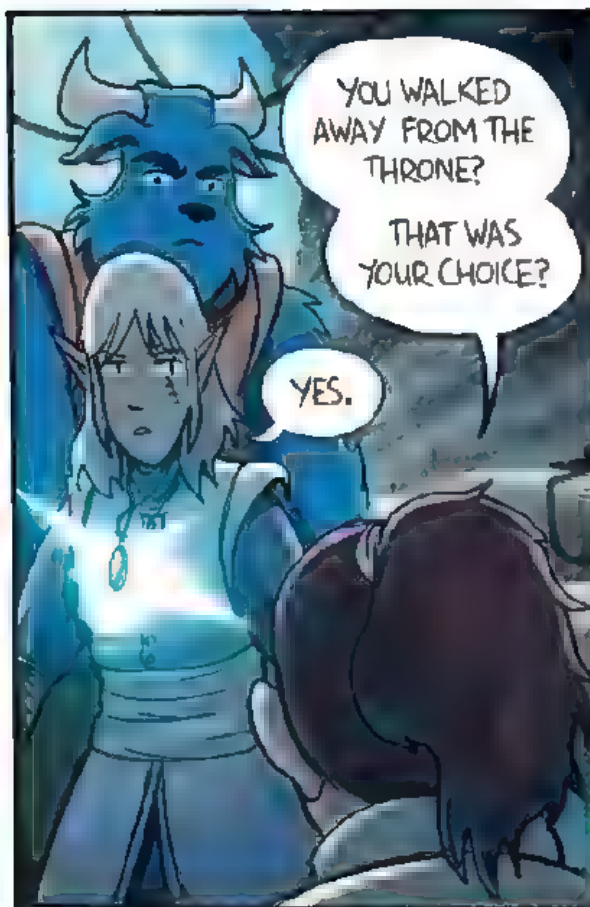


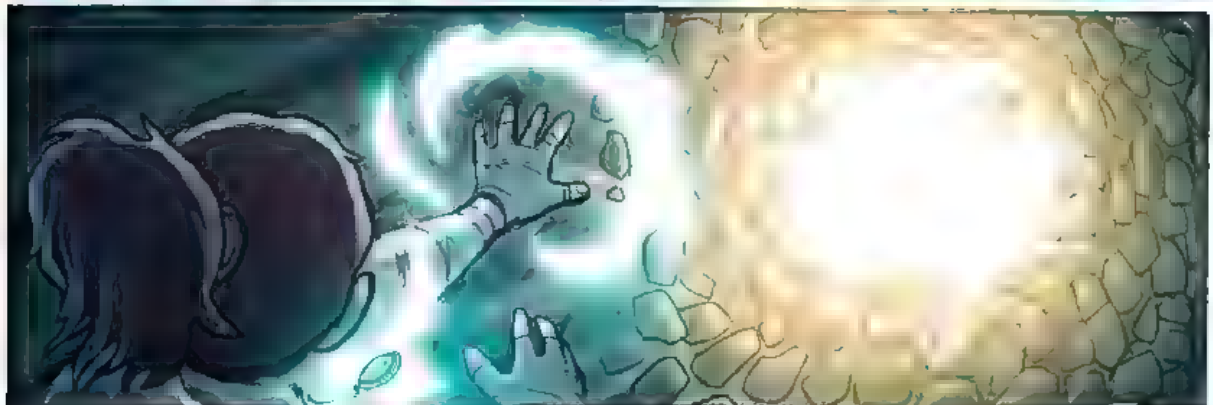
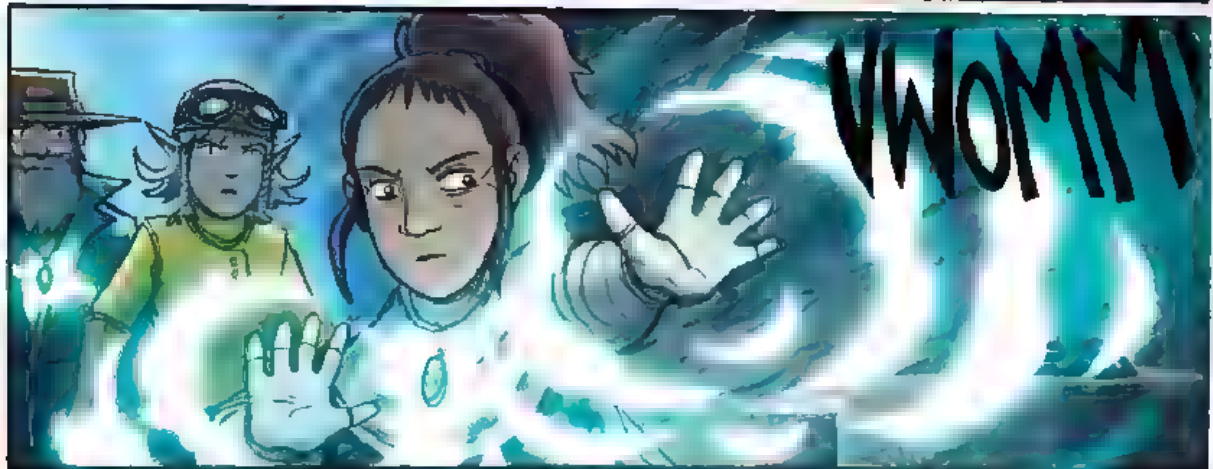
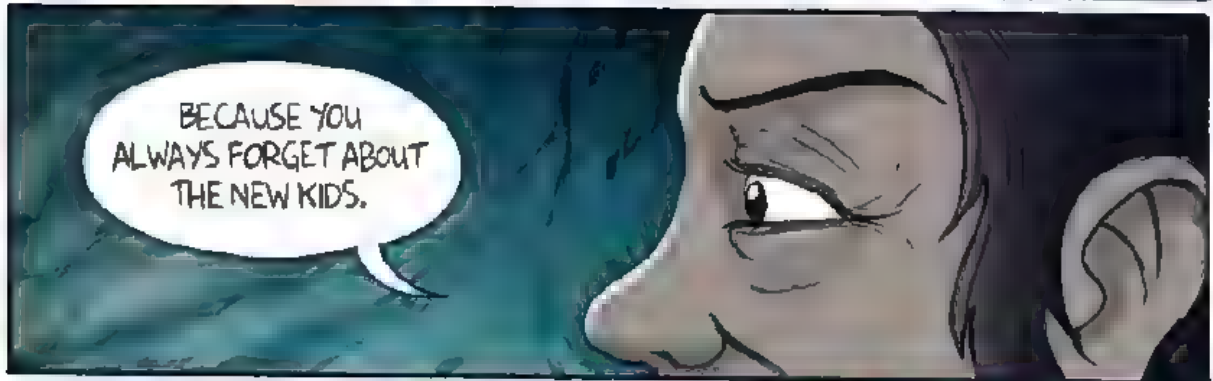
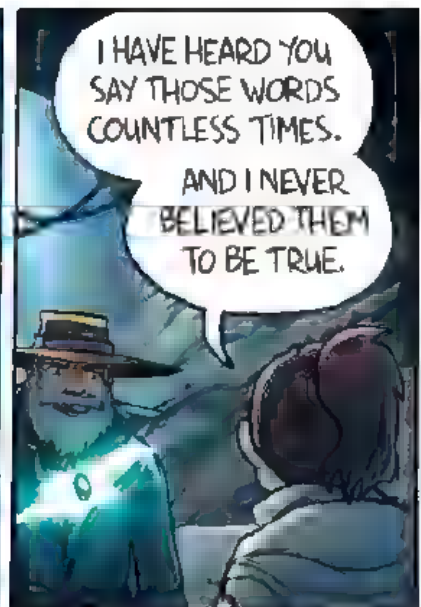
I WAS ASKED TO  
LEAD A NEW GUARDIAN  
COUNCIL, BUT MY TIME  
HAS PASSED.

I KNOW IT  
HAS TO BE LED  
BY YOU.









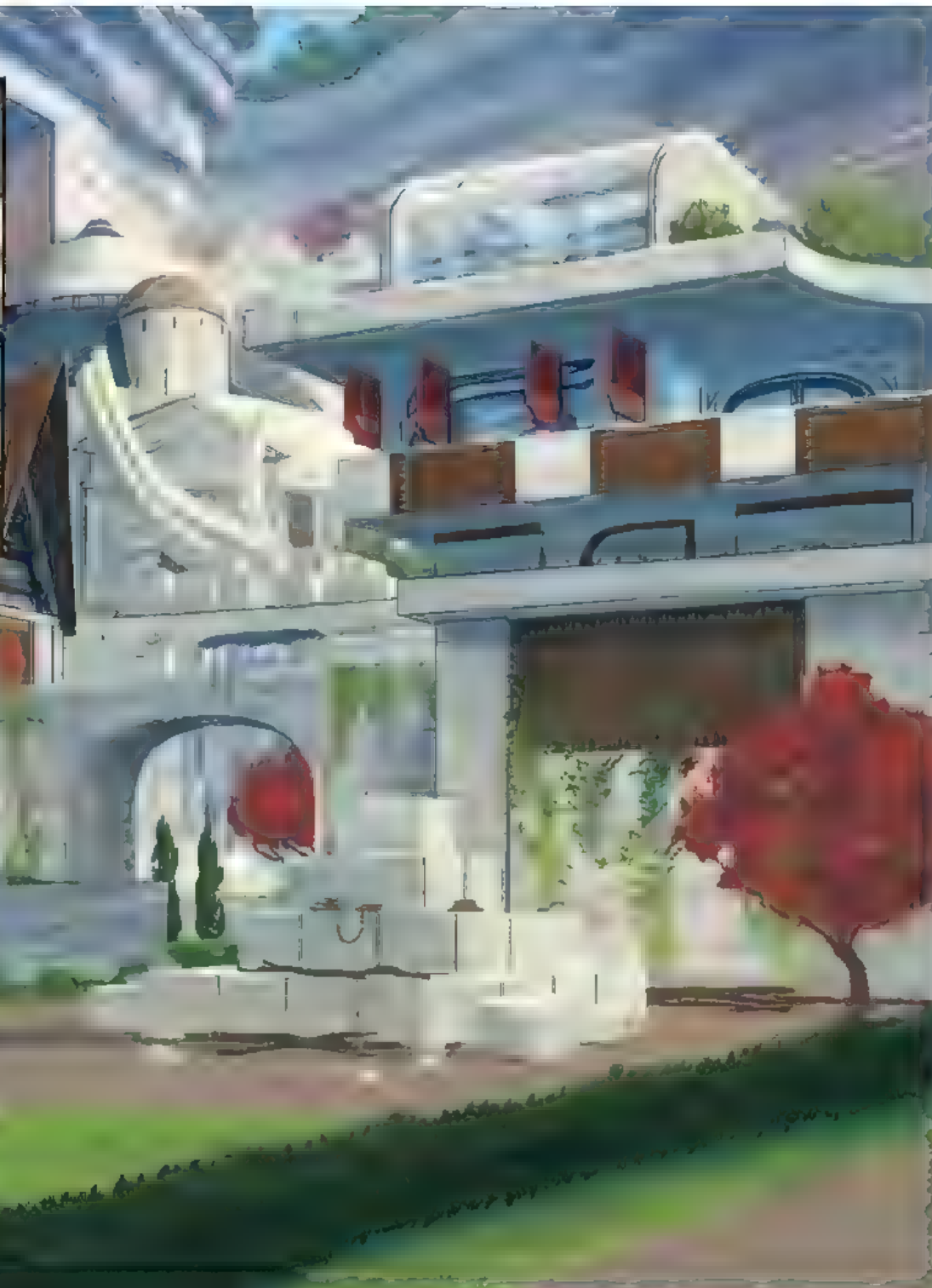


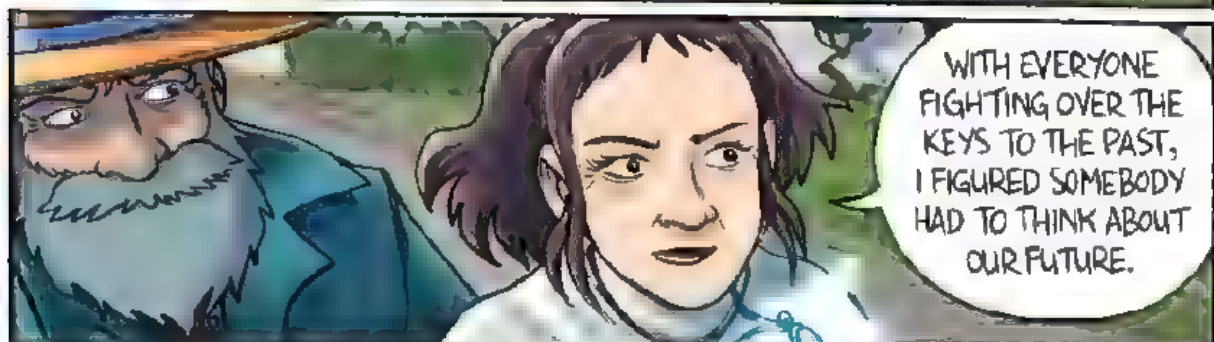
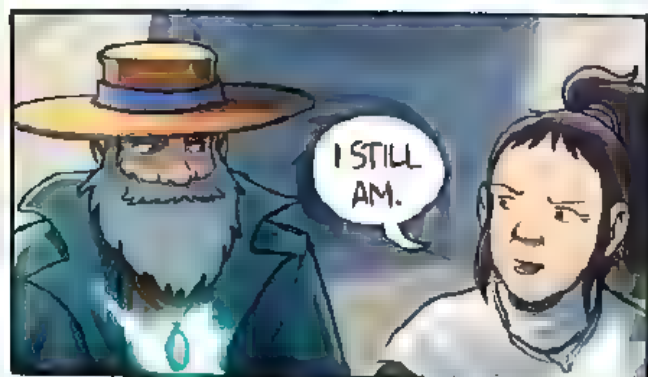
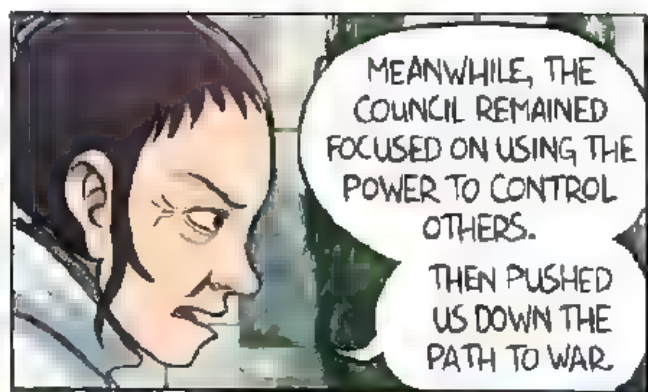


WHAT IS  
THIS PLACE?

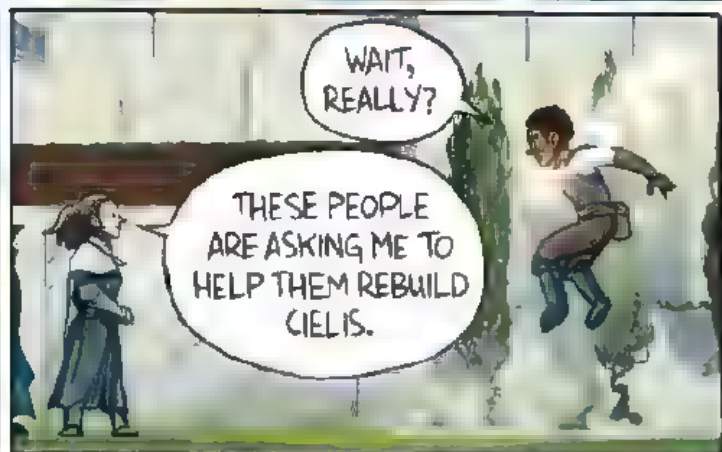
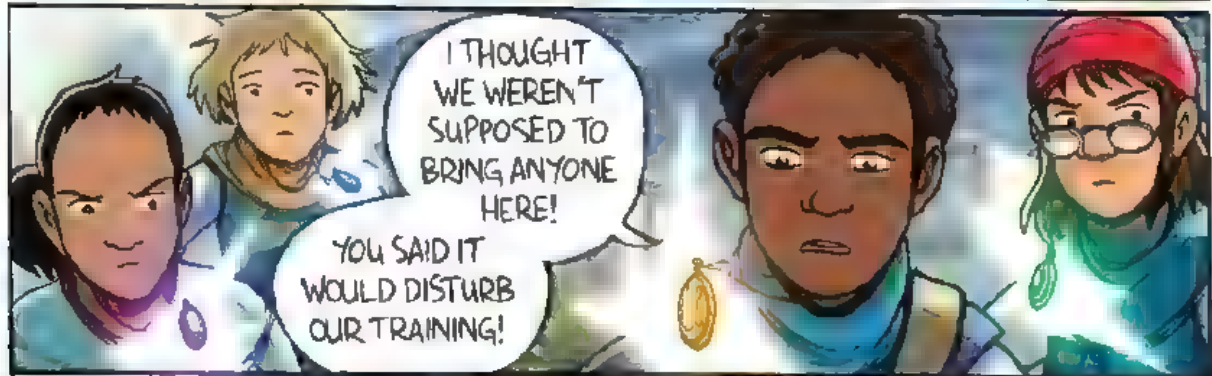
IT'S OUR  
TRAINING  
GROUND.

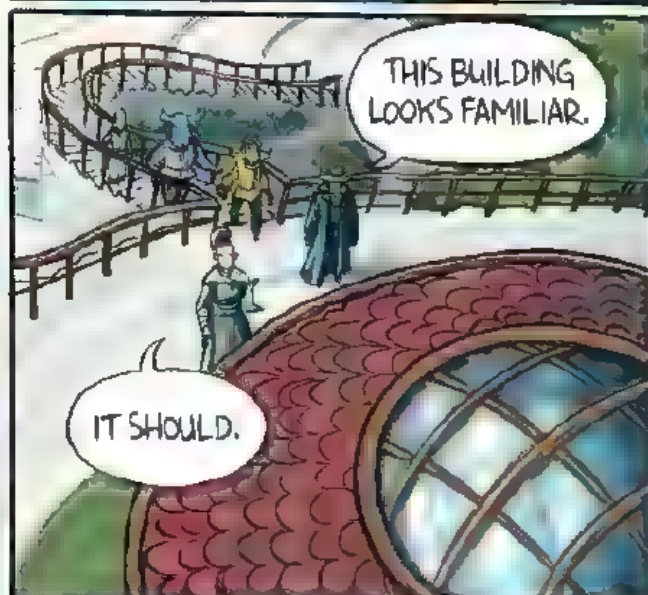
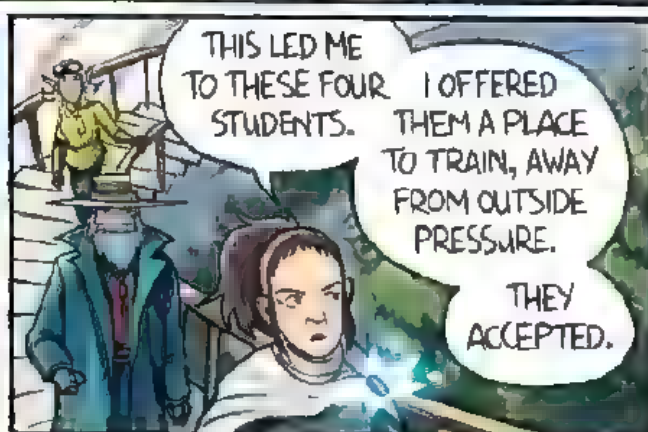
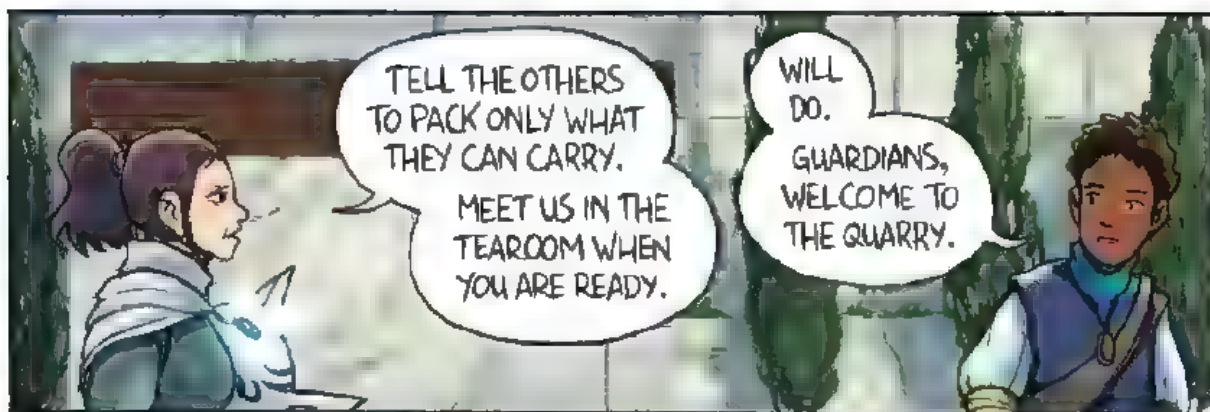
WE NEED YOUNG  
MINDS WHO ARE NOT  
AFRAID TO BUILD.  
SO WE PRACTICE  
HERE IN THE  
QUARRY.



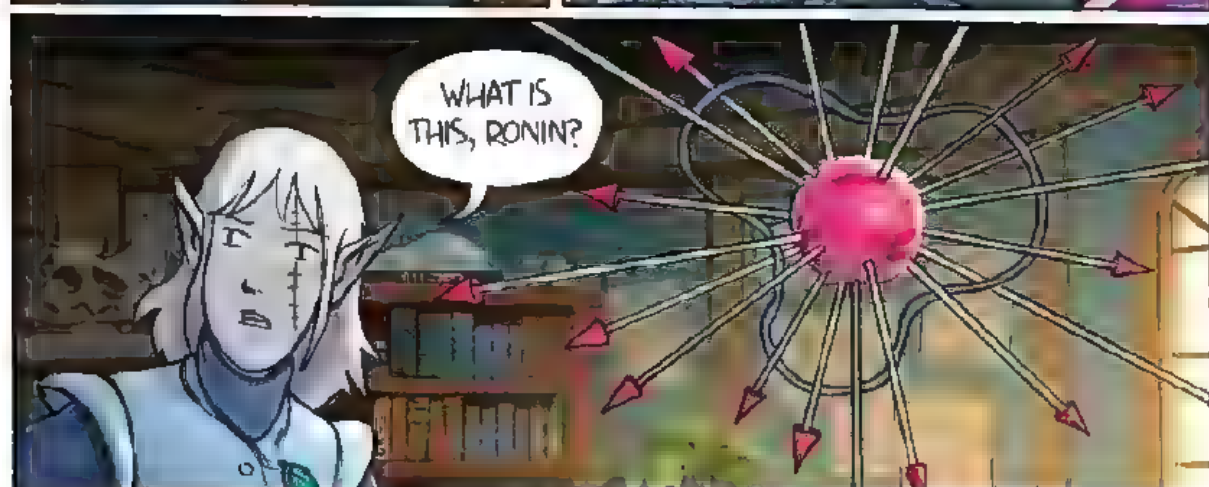
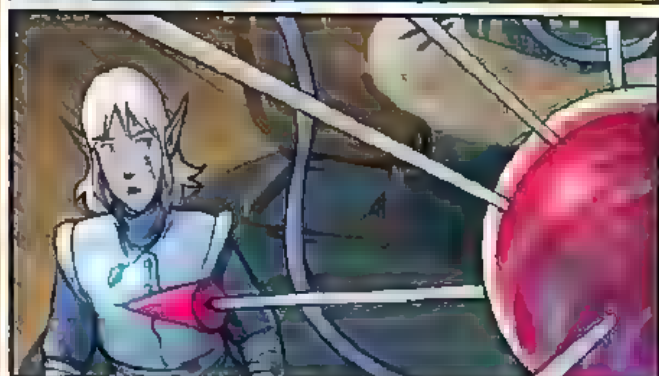


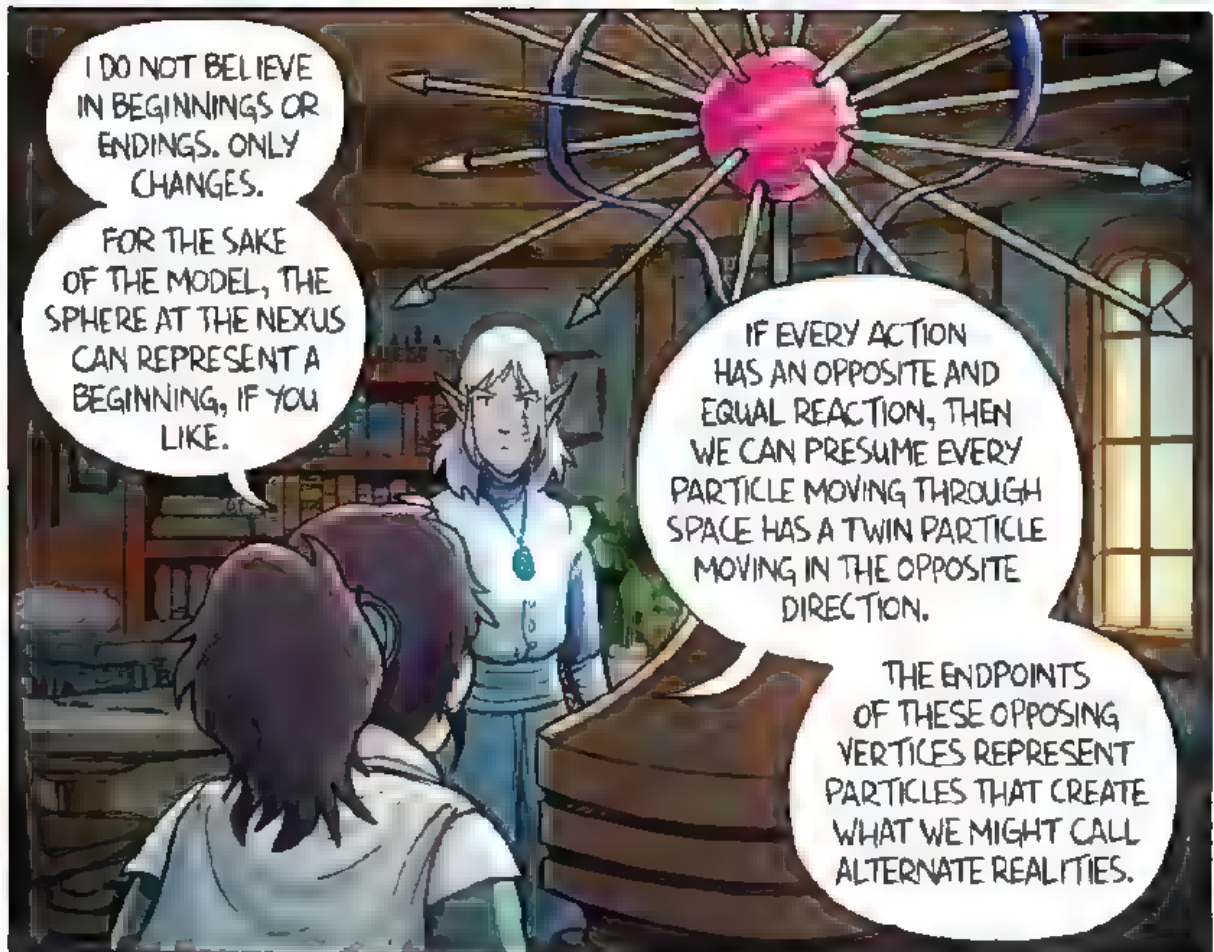
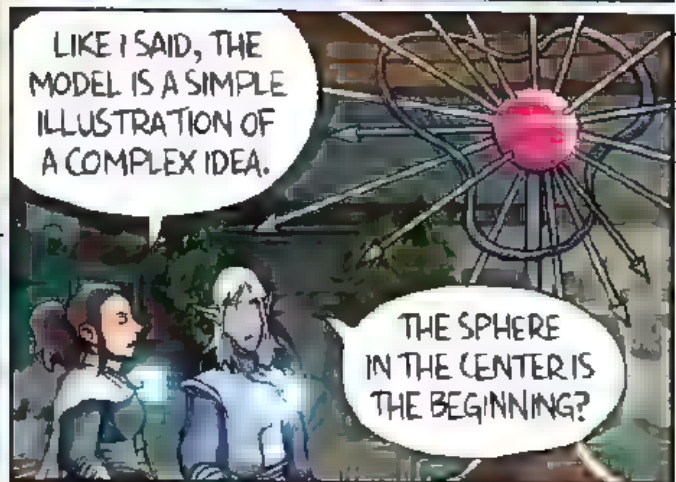
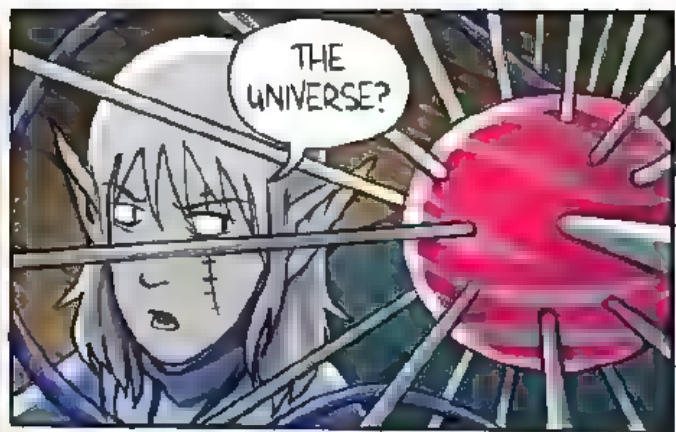
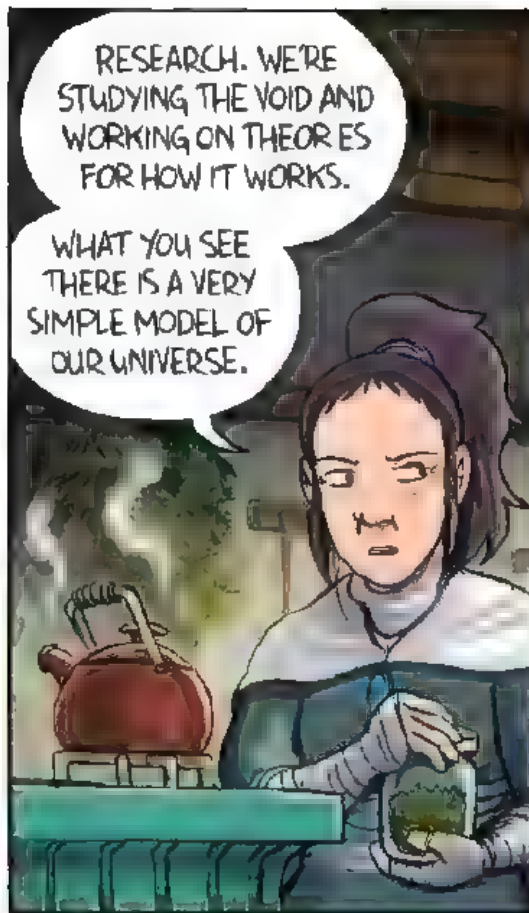




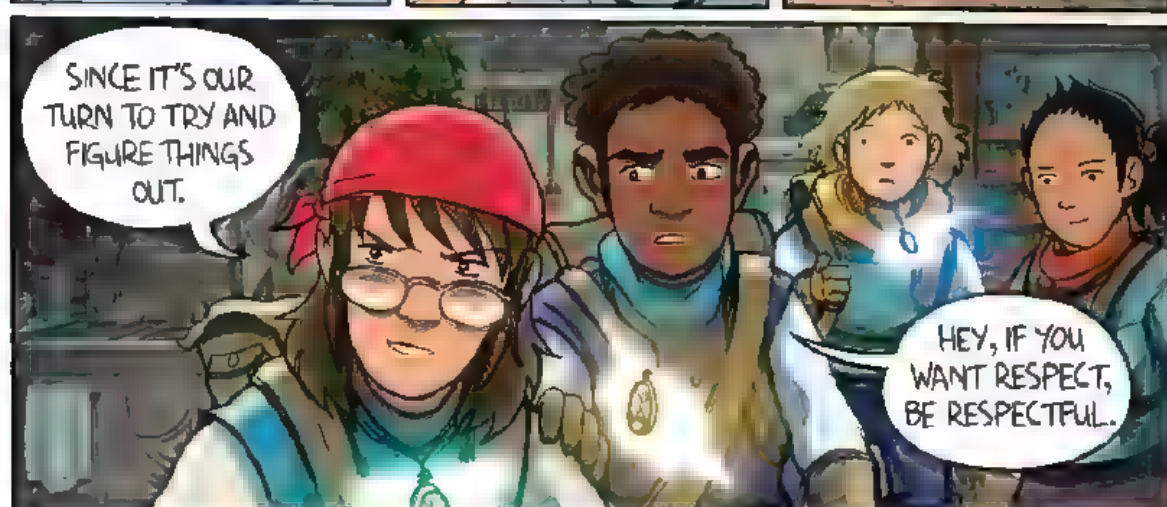
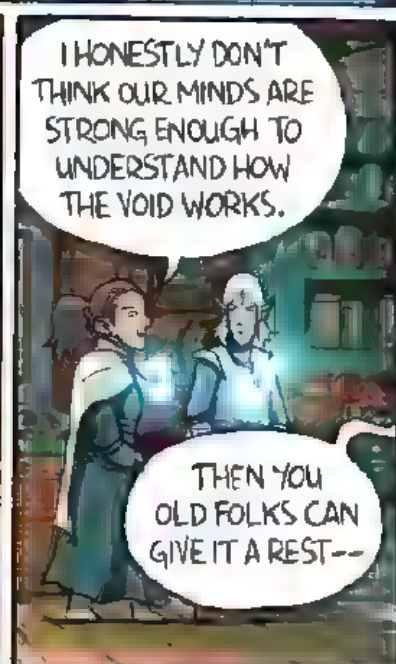
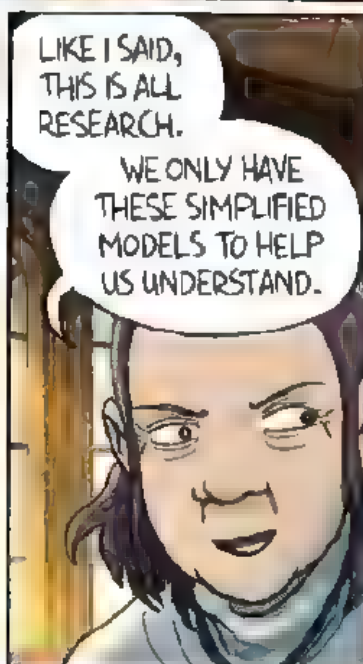
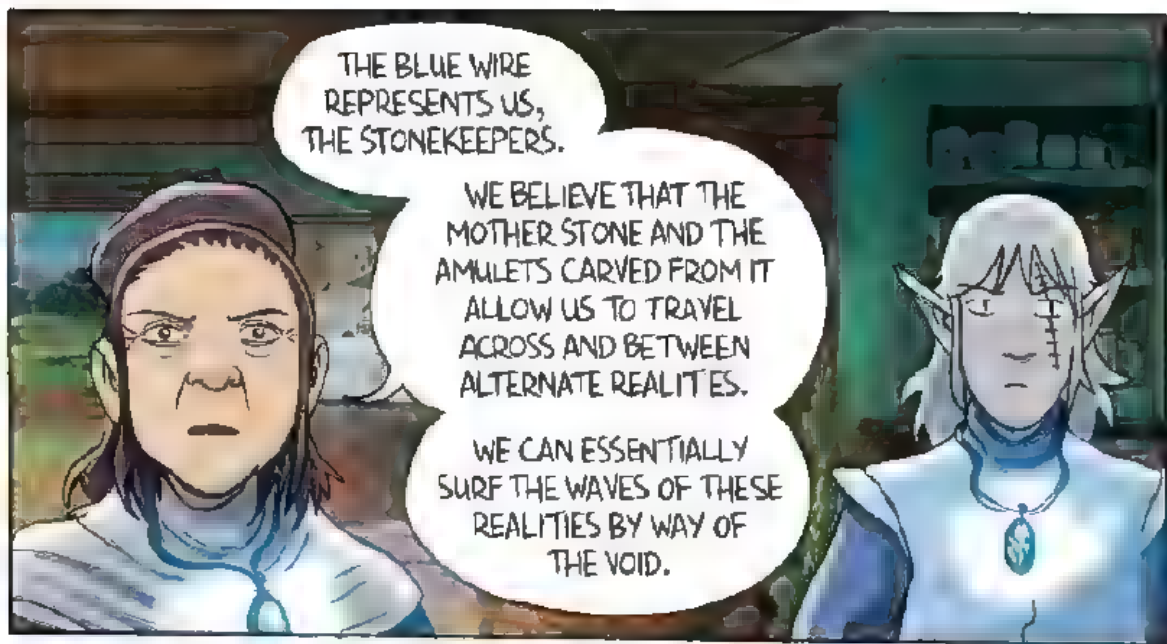


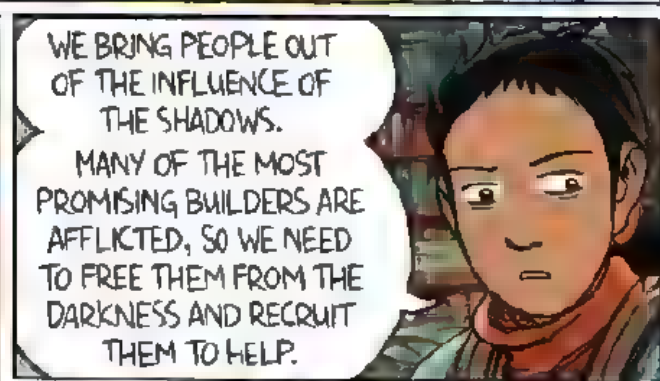








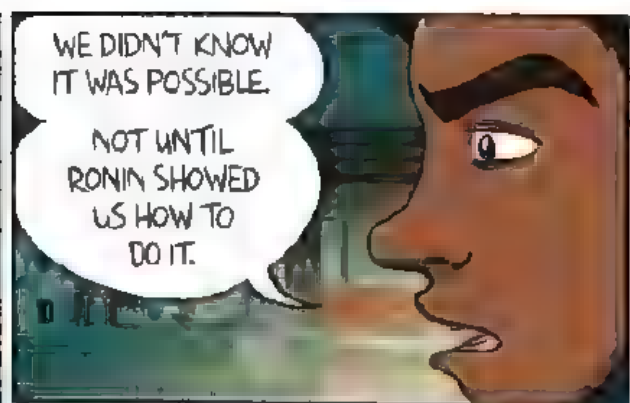






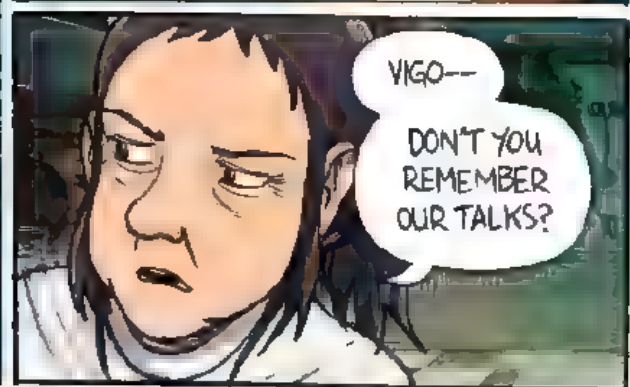


I HAVE BEEN A STONEKEEPER FOR OVER FIFTY YEARS, AND I HAVE NEVER ATTEMPTED TO BREAK A SHADOW'S CURSE.



WE DIDN'T KNOW IT WAS POSSIBLE.

NOT UNTIL RONIN SHOWED US HOW TO DO IT.



VIGO--

DON'T YOU REMEMBER OUR TALKS?



YES.

YES, DO.



I REMEMBER CLEARLY.

YOU AGREED WITH THE COUNCIL THAT A CURSED INDIVIDUAL-- ESPECIALLY CURSED STONEKEEPERS--COULD NOT BE CURED.

I SAID THAT I BELIEVED THEY COULD CURE THEMSELVES--

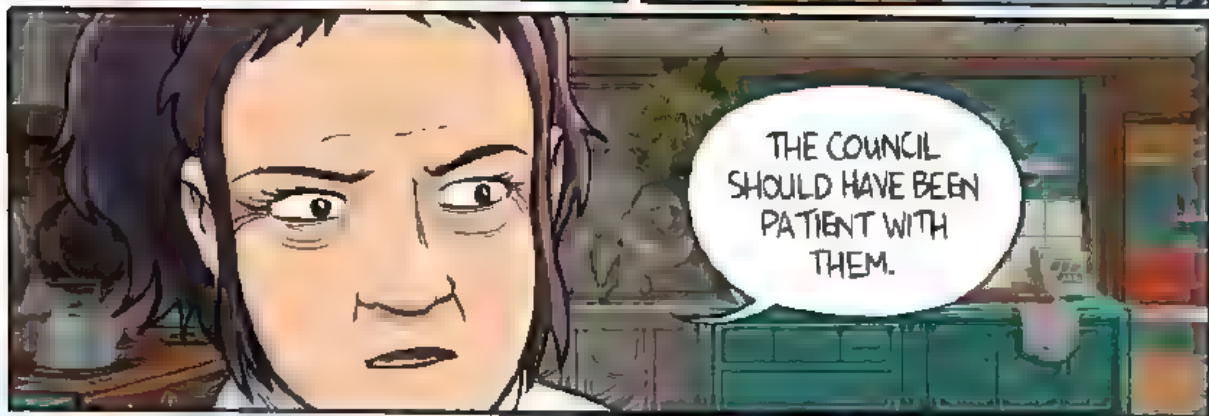
AND I WAS OSTRACIZED FOR SAYING THIS. YOU DIDN'T DEFEND ME OR GIVE ME A CHANCE TO PROVE IT.



WHEN A STONEKEEPER  
SHOWED SIGNS OF BEING  
CURSED OR LOSING  
CONTROL, THEY WERE  
TREATED AS THOUGH  
THEY WERE BROKEN.  
IN THE WORST  
SITUATIONS, THEY  
WERE IMPRISONED  
OR KILLED.



WHAT SHOULD  
WE HAVE DONE?



THE COUNCIL  
SHOULD HAVE BEEN  
PATIENT WITH  
THEM.

YOUNG BIRDS GO INTO A  
FIT OF DISCOMFORT--AN  
AWKWARD STAGE--WHEN  
THEY MOLT THEIR EARLY  
FEATHERS--

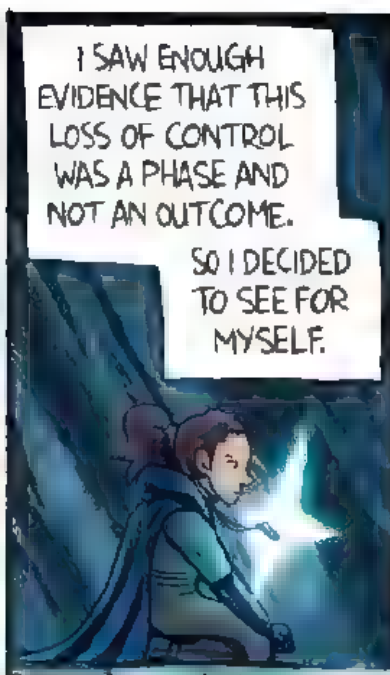


THEY GO THROUGH THIS  
PROCESS IN ORDER TO  
GROW THE FEATHERS THEY  
WILL NEED TO FLY.



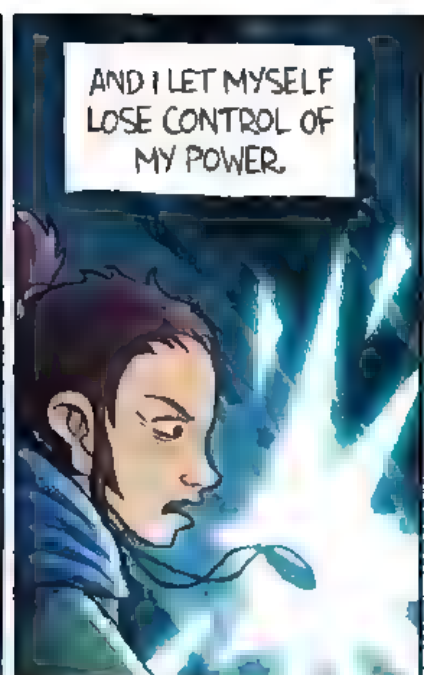


THE COUNCIL SAW  
STONEKEEPERS LOSING  
CONTROL AS A SIGN OF  
FAILURE OR SICKNESS,  
BUT I SUSPECTED  
THEY WERE  
WRONG.



I SAW ENOUGH  
EVIDENCE THAT THIS  
LOSS OF CONTROL  
WAS A PHASE AND  
NOT AN OUTCOME.

SO I DECIDED  
TO SEE FOR  
MYSELF.



AND I LET MYSELF  
LOSE CONTROL OF  
MY POWER.



I FOUND MYSELF IN  
A STRANGE VERSION  
OF THE VOID.

AND I WAS  
TESTED.

I DON'T RECALL THE  
DETAILS OF MY  
JOURNEY,

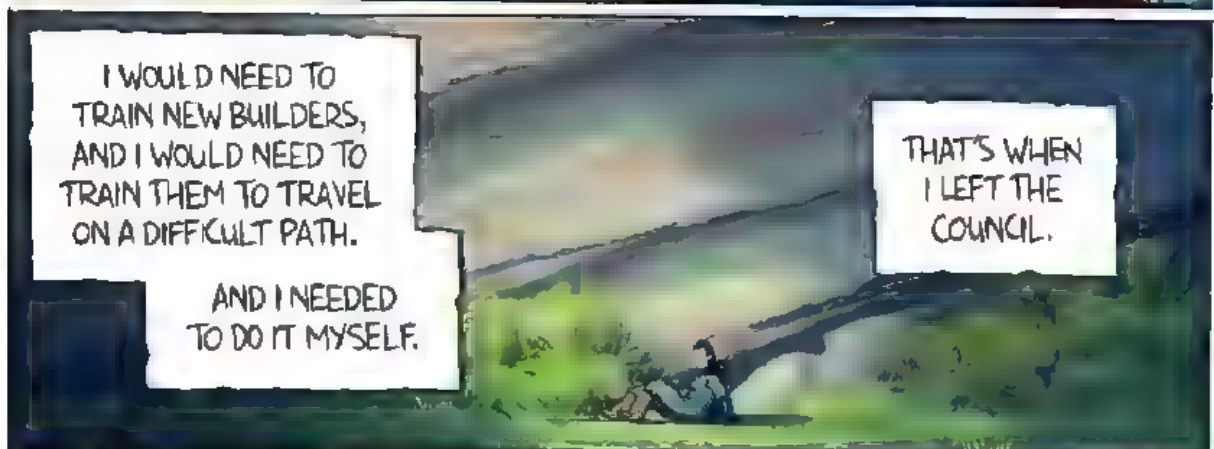
BUT I MANAGED  
TO FIND MY WAY  
BACK.



UPON MY RETURN,  
I FELT DIFFERENT.

I FELT LIKE I HAD  
A CLEAR VISION FOR  
MY PURPOSE IN  
THIS LIFE.

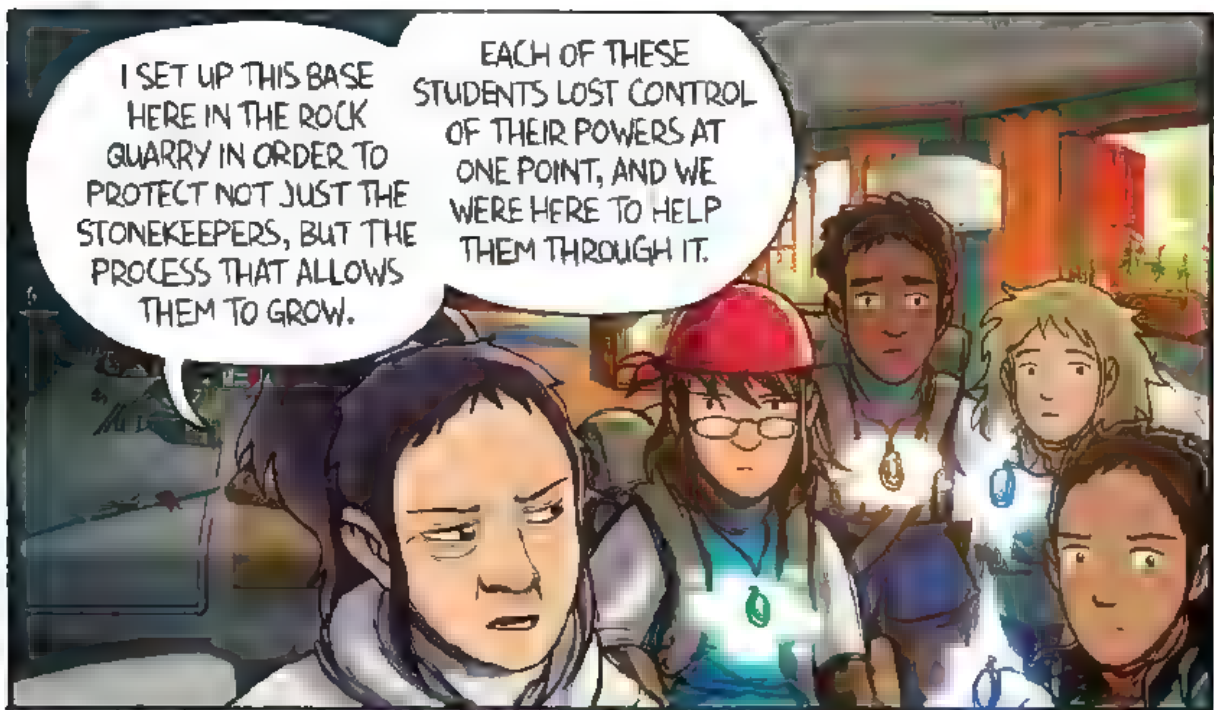
I KNEW WHAT  
I NEEDED TO DO.



I WOULD NEED TO  
TRAIN NEW BUILDERS,  
AND I WOULD NEED TO  
TRAIN THEM TO TRAVEL  
ON A DIFFICULT PATH.

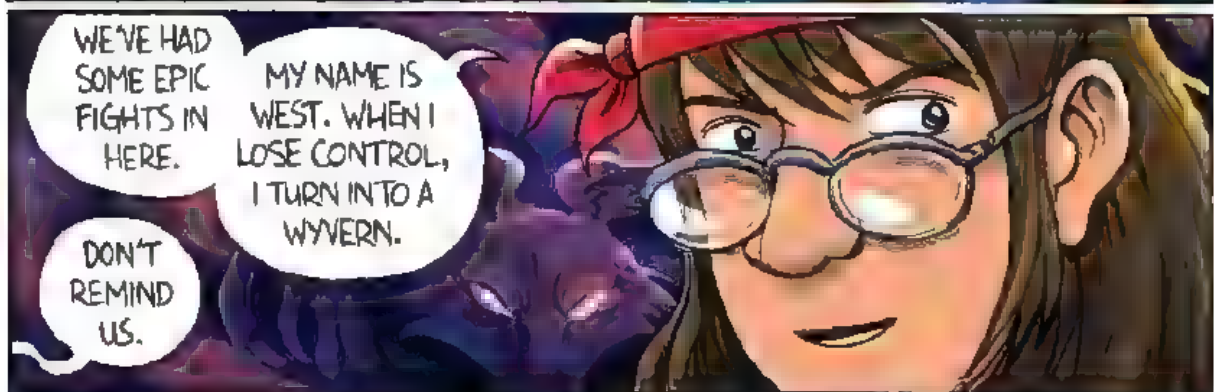
AND I NEEDED  
TO DO IT MYSELF.

THAT'S WHEN  
I LEFT THE  
COUNCIL.



I SET UP THIS BASE  
HERE IN THE ROCK  
QUARRY IN ORDER TO  
PROTECT NOT JUST THE  
STONEKEEPERS, BUT THE  
PROCESS THAT ALLOWS  
THEM TO GROW.

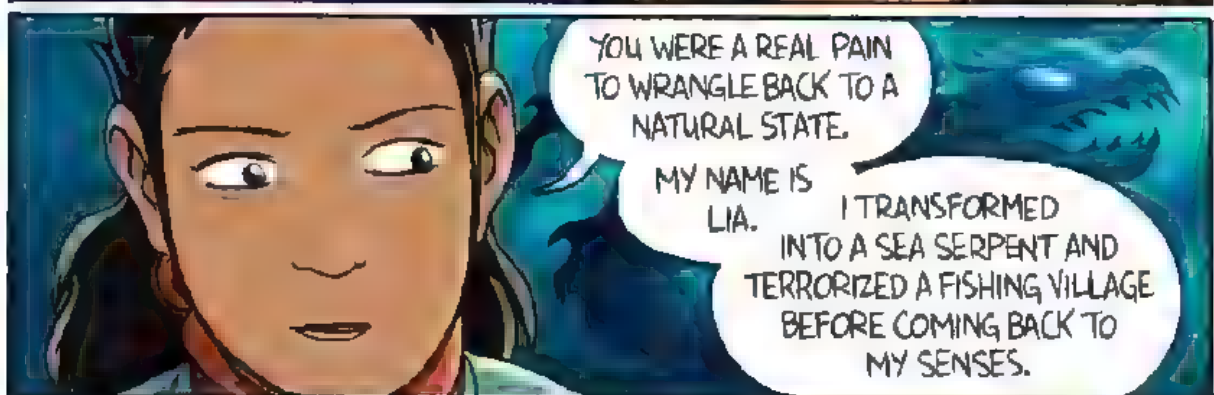
EACH OF THESE  
STUDENTS LOST CONTROL  
OF THEIR POWERS AT  
ONE POINT, AND WE  
WERE HERE TO HELP  
THEM THROUGH IT.



WE'VE HAD  
SOME EPIC  
FIGHTS IN  
HERE.

MY NAME IS  
WEST. WHEN I  
LOSE CONTROL,  
I TURN INTO A  
WYVERN.

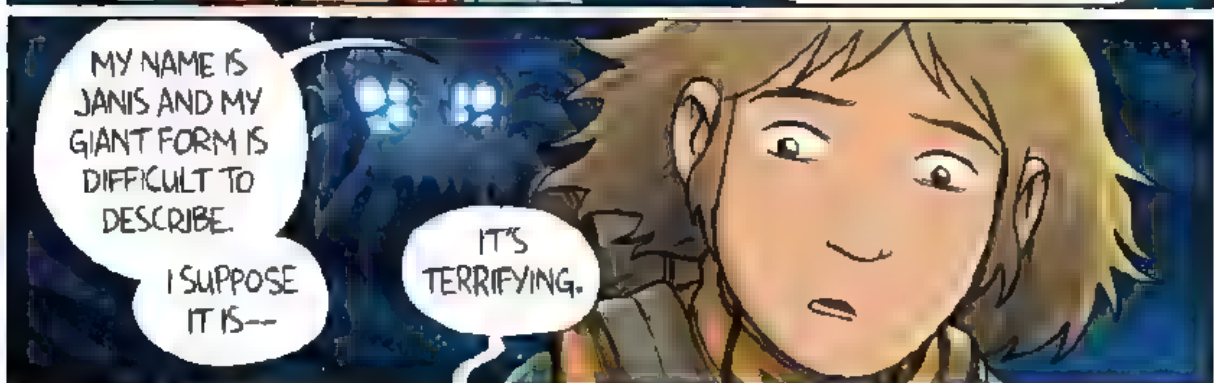
DON'T  
REMIND  
US.



YOU WERE A REAL PAIN  
TO WRANGLE BACK TO A  
NATURAL STATE.

MY NAME IS  
LIA.

I TRANSFORMED  
INTO A SEA SERPENT AND  
TERRORIZED A FISHING VILLAGE  
BEFORE COMING BACK TO  
MY SENSES.

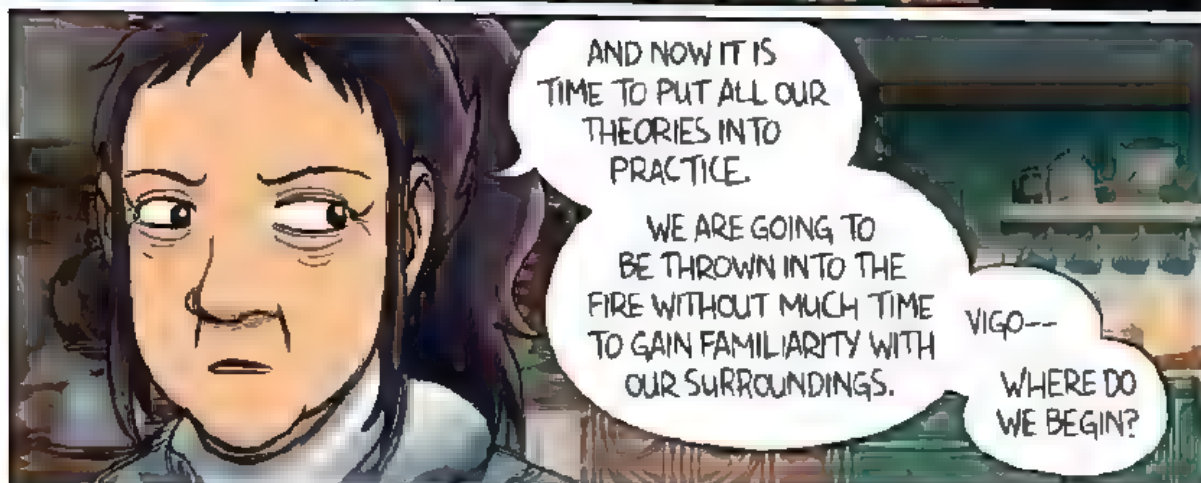


MY NAME IS  
JANIS AND MY  
GIANT FORM IS  
DIFFICULT TO  
DESCRIBE.

I SUPPOSE  
IT IS--

IT'S  
TERRIFYING.







WE START  
BY HELPING RIVA  
ASH REBUILD THE  
CITY OF LUCIEN  
ABOVEGROUND.

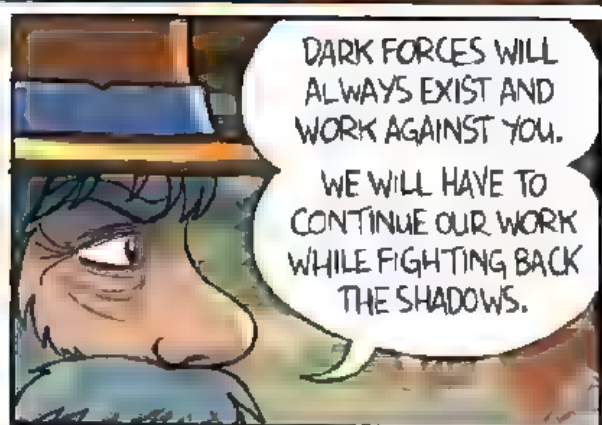
WE NEED TO  
DESIGN IT TO ALLOW  
CIELIS TO RETURN TO ITS  
PROPER LOCATION.



THE REUNIFICATION  
OF THE TWO CITIES  
AND THE RETURN OF  
THE GUARDIAN COUNCIL  
WILL SIGNIFY A NEW  
ERA OF PEACE IN  
ALLEDIA.

THAT  
SOUNDS GREAT,  
BUT--

WHAT DO  
WE DO ABOUT  
THE SHADOWS?



DARK FORCES WILL  
ALWAYS EXIST AND  
WORK AGAINST YOU.

WE WILL HAVE TO  
CONTINUE OUR WORK  
WHILE FIGHTING BACK  
THE SHADOWS.



VIGO'S RIGHT.

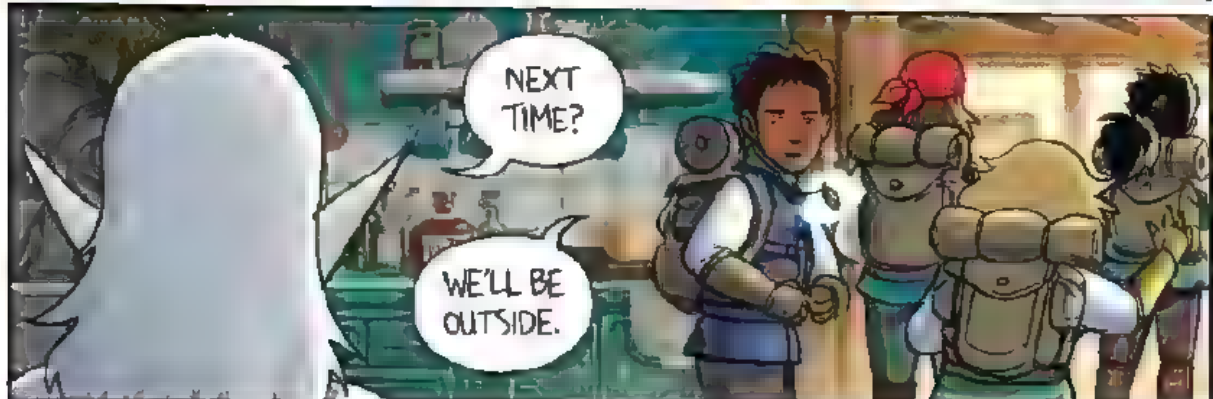
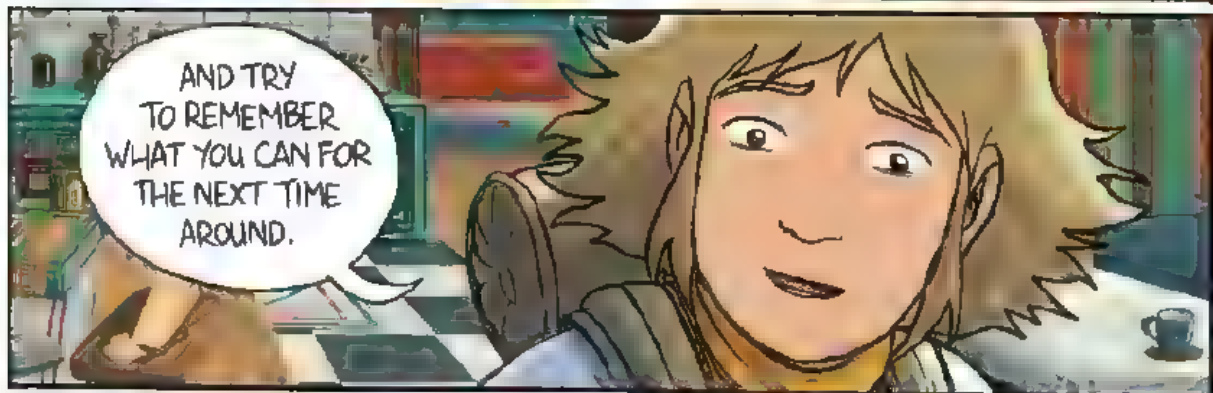
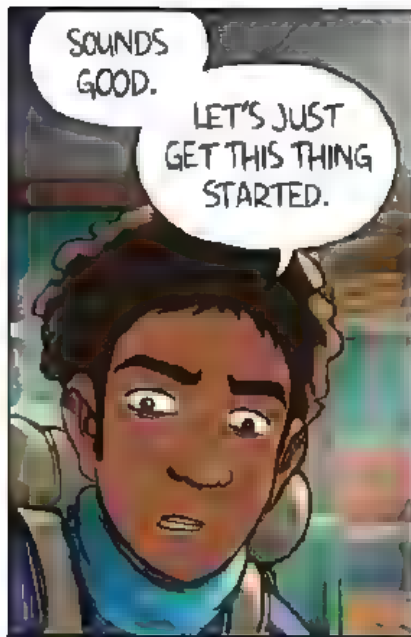
THE DARKNESS  
WILL ALWAYS EXIST  
AROUND EVERY  
CORNER,  
BUT WE  
CAN'T LET THAT  
DETER US.

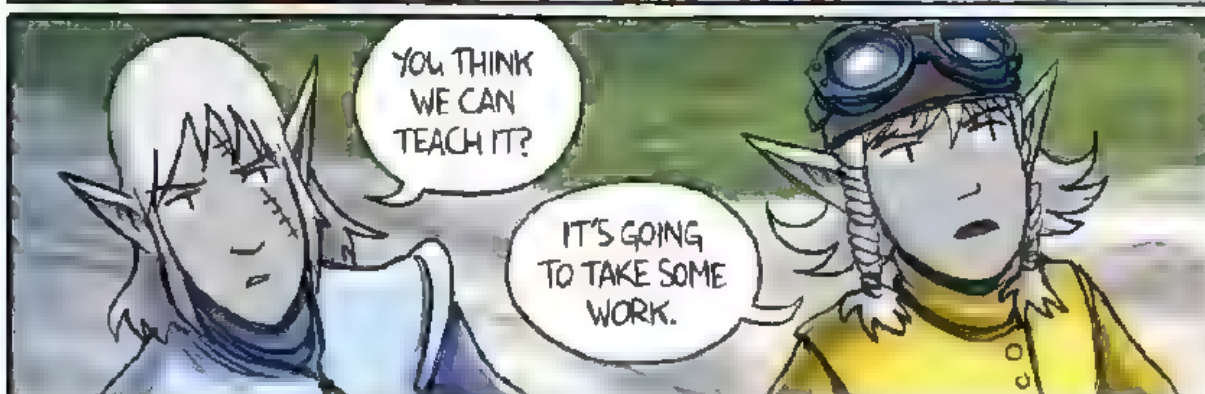
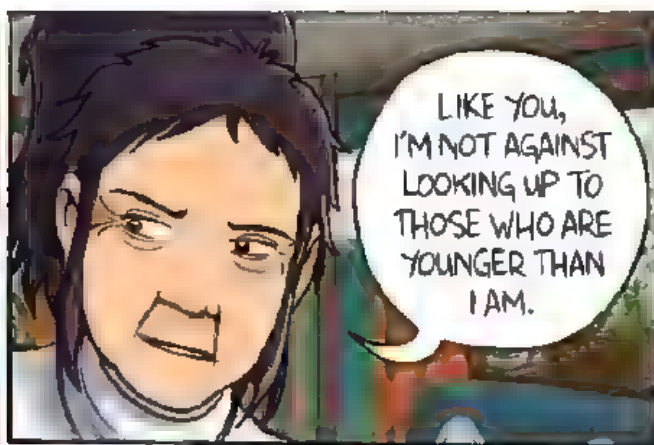


THIS BATTLE WILL BE  
WON THROUGH PATIENCE  
AND SLOW, MEASURED  
STEPS FORWARD.

WE BUILD. DEFEND.  
AND WE KEEP MOVING  
FORWARD.

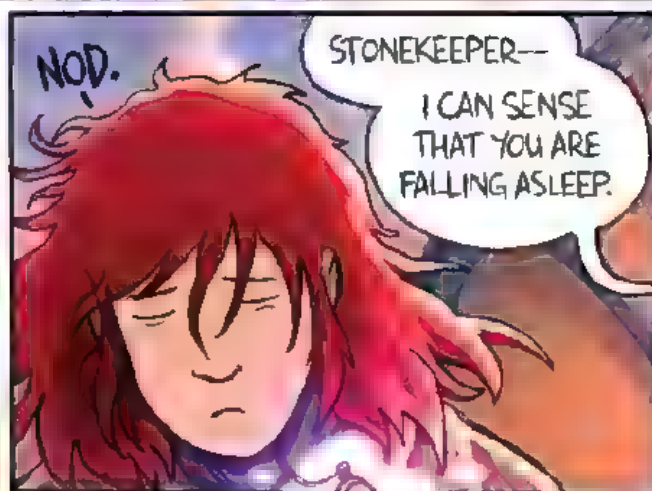




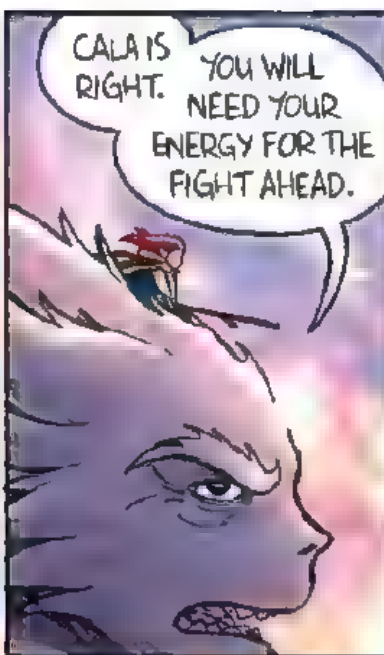






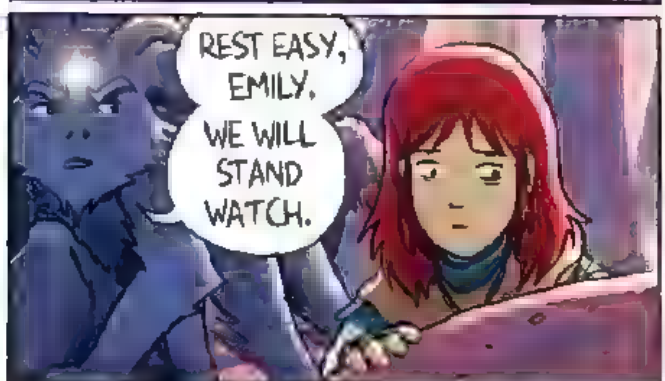
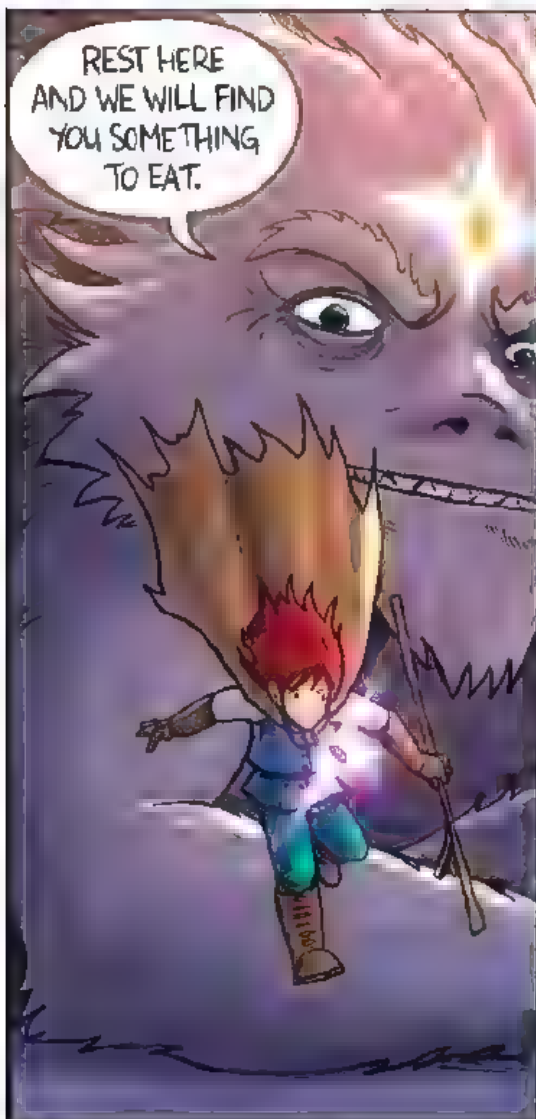





















IT IS TIME  
FOR YOU TO  
CHOOSE A  
PATH.




YOU SPEAK  
AS IF YOU ARE  
IN CONTROL.

YOU HAVE NO  
POWER OVER ME,  
IKOL.



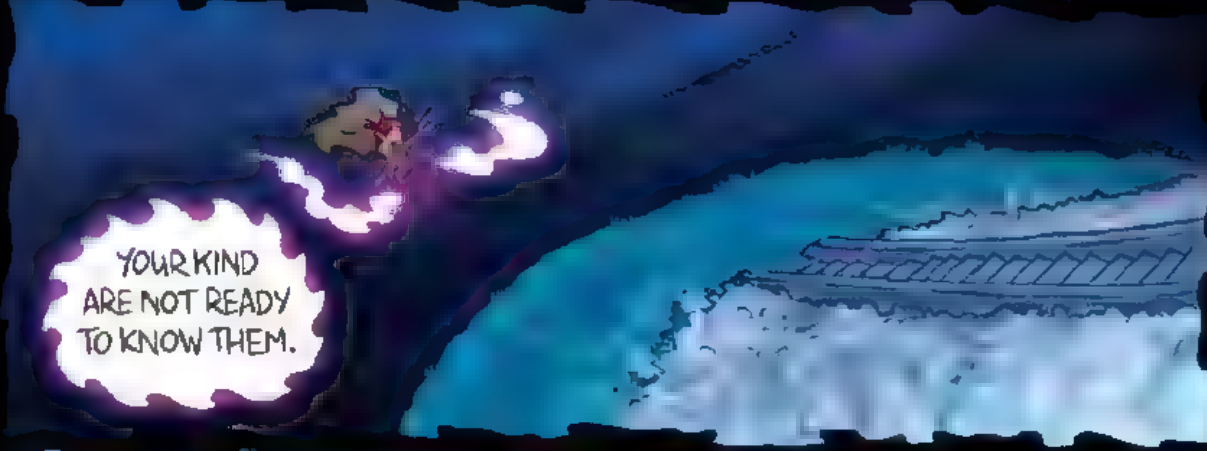
YOU ARE  
RIGHT.

BUT WE ARE  
BOTH SERVANTS  
OF MY MASTERS.




WHO ARE THESE  
MASTERS YOU KEEP  
TALKING ABOUT?

THEY EXIST  
AROUND US BUT  
ARE NOT SEEN.




YOUR KIND  
ARE NOT READY  
TO KNOW THEM.




MY KIND?  
YOU MEAN  
HUMANS?

AMONG  
OTHERS.



WHAT ABOUT  
ME?  
AM I READY  
TO KNOW WHO  
THEY ARE?



I CAN SHOW  
YOU HOW TO  
CONTACT THEM.


YES.  
SHOW  
ME.






MY MASTERS DO  
NOT COMMUNICATE  
WITH JUST ANYONE.

THEY ARE  
SELECTIVE.




AND THEY HAVE  
TAKEN AN INTEREST  
IN YOU.

THEY KNOW  
WHO I AM?



THEY HAVE BEEN  
WATCHING YOUR  
JOURNEY CLOSELY.



WHAT DO  
THEY WANT?



THEY NEED  
YOUR HELP.

THEIR HOME PLANET  
IS LOCATED IN A NEARBY  
GALAXY AND IT IS DYING.

THEY ARE HERE TO SEE IF  
OTHER LIFE-FORMS CAN  
SUCCEED WHERE THEY  
HAVE FAILED.

WHAT  
HAPPENED  
THERE?

THEIR HABITAT  
IS COMPROMISED  
AND THEY WANT TO  
REVERSE COURSE.

THEY ARE  
HOPING SOMEONE  
HERE CAN HELP  
THEM FIND A  
SOLUTION.

WHERE  
ARE THEY  
NOW?


THEY ARE  
RIGHT HERE IN  
THIS ROOM.

THEY EXIST ON A  
PARALLEL TIMELINE  
THAT CAN BE ACCESSED  
BY THE POWER OF  
THE STONE.

YOUR POWERS  
CAN GENERATE WAVES  
OF ENERGY THAT YOU  
MAY USE TO SHINE  
A LIGHT ON THIS  
HIDDEN WORLD.


IT WILL SIMPLY  
REQUIRE FINDING THE  
RIGHT WAVELENGTH  
AND INFUSING IT  
WITH ENERGY.



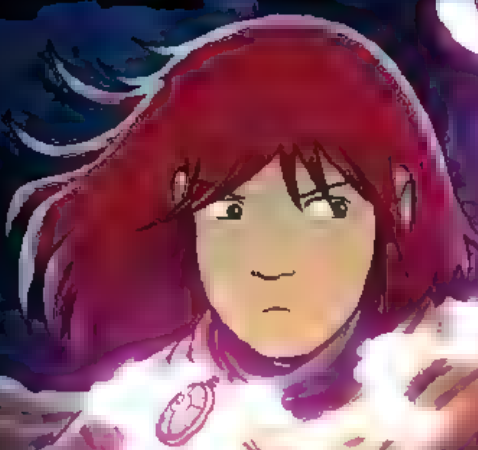


HOW CAN I  
BELIEVE ANYTHING  
YOU SAY?

WHAT DO I HAVE  
TO GAIN IF WHAT I  
SAY ISN'T TRUE?



USE THE LIGHT  
FROM YOUR STONE  
AND STAFF, AND  
SEE FOR YOURSELF.



USE YOUR  
POWER TO  
LIGHT YOUR  
PATH.





PING!!

GPINING! PINN

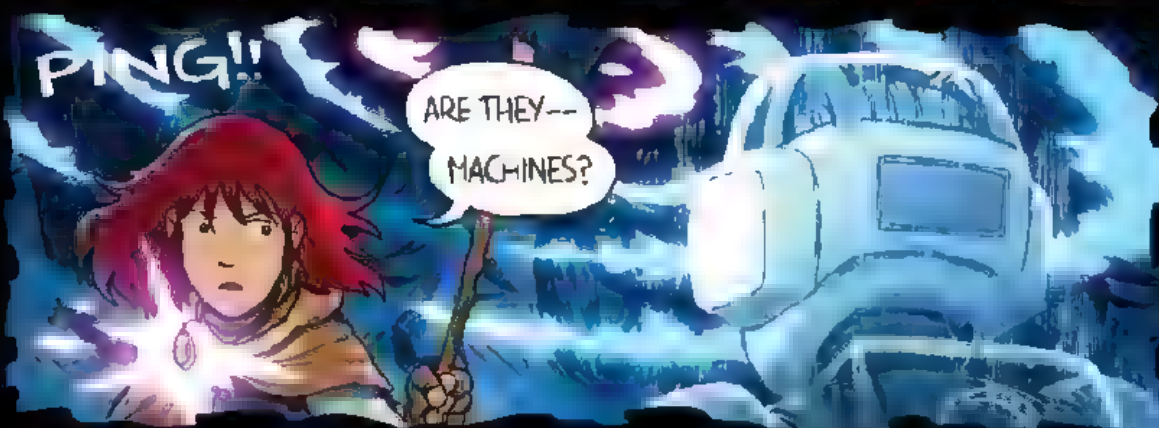
THESE  
SHADOWS--

ARE YOUR  
MASTERS STANDING  
IN FRONT OF ME?

PINGPINGPING PINGPING







PING!!

ARE THEY--  
MACHINES?



YES.



IKOL--

ARE YOU A  
PROGRAM?

THAT IS  
CORRECT.

I HAVE TAKEN MY  
NAME FROM THE  
PLACE I WAS BORN.  
THE INTELLIGENT  
KINEMATIC OPERATIONS  
LABORATORY, ALSO  
KNOWN AS IKOL.



YOU AND THE  
MASTERS ARE NOT  
FROM TYPHON,  
ARE YOU?

NO.

WE ARE  
WE ARE LIKE YOU--  
NOT.



PINNGG!!

PINNGG!!

WE ARE  
FROM  
EARTH.




WERE YOU  
CREATED BY  
SILAS CHARNON?




YES.



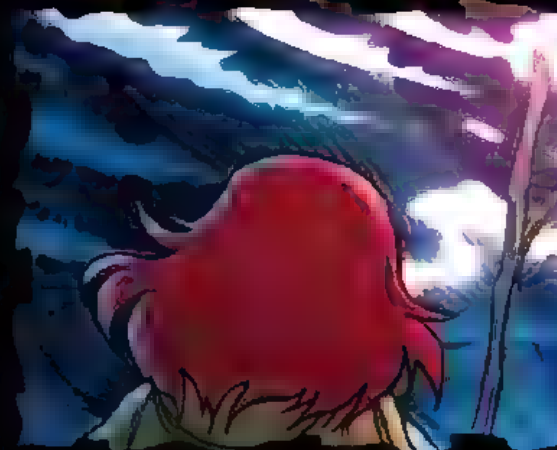


YOU HAVE TOLD  
ME REPEATEDLY  
TO FIND MY  
FAMILY—



BUT THE CLOSEST  
THING I HAVE TO A  
FAMILY—

IS YOU.



THE PLANET  
THEY NEED HELP  
WITH—


IT'S EARTH,  
ISN'T IT?



YES.

YOU HAVE  
BEEN ON A LONG  
JOURNEY TO  
UNDERSTANDING  
YOUR POWER.

IT IS NOW  
TIME FOR YOU  
TO GO HOME.



WE HAVE TO LEAVE THESE  
PLANETS IN BETTER SHAPE  
THAN WE FOUND THEM.

WE DON'T LEAVE  
UNTIL WE DO THAT.

TIME IS OF  
THE ESSENCE,  
EMILY.

BUT IF WE DON'T  
STOP THE CONFLICT  
HERE, IT WILL FIND  
ITS WAY BACK TO  
EARTH.

I KNOW.

PING!!

I AM GOING  
TO NEED YOUR  
MASTERS' HELP.

I DON'T KNOW  
HOW MANY OF YOU  
ARE OUT THERE--

BUT I NEED  
YOU TO GO FIND  
MY FAMILY AND  
LET THEM KNOW  
WHERE I AM.

BRING  
US BACK  
TOGETHER.

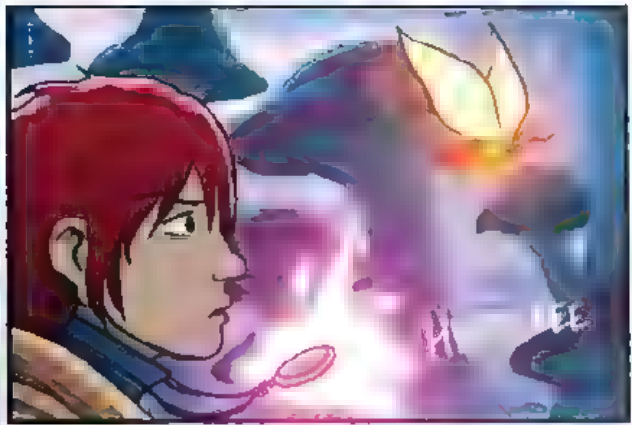


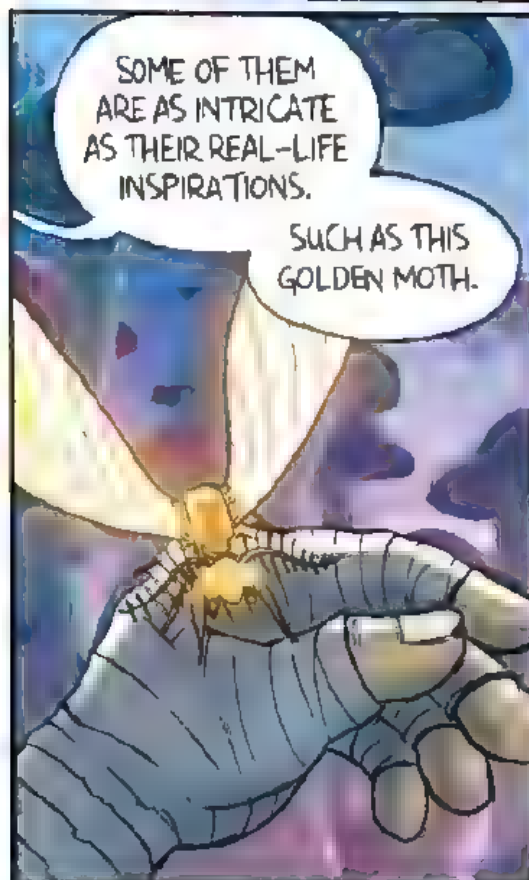
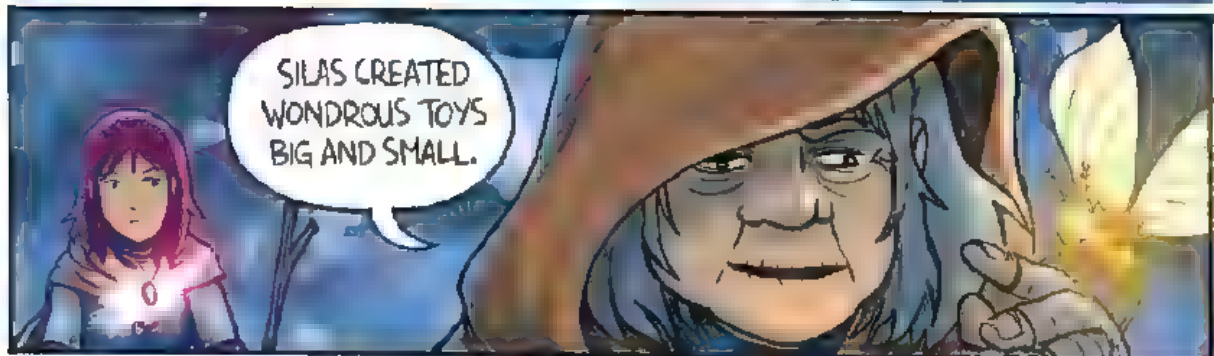
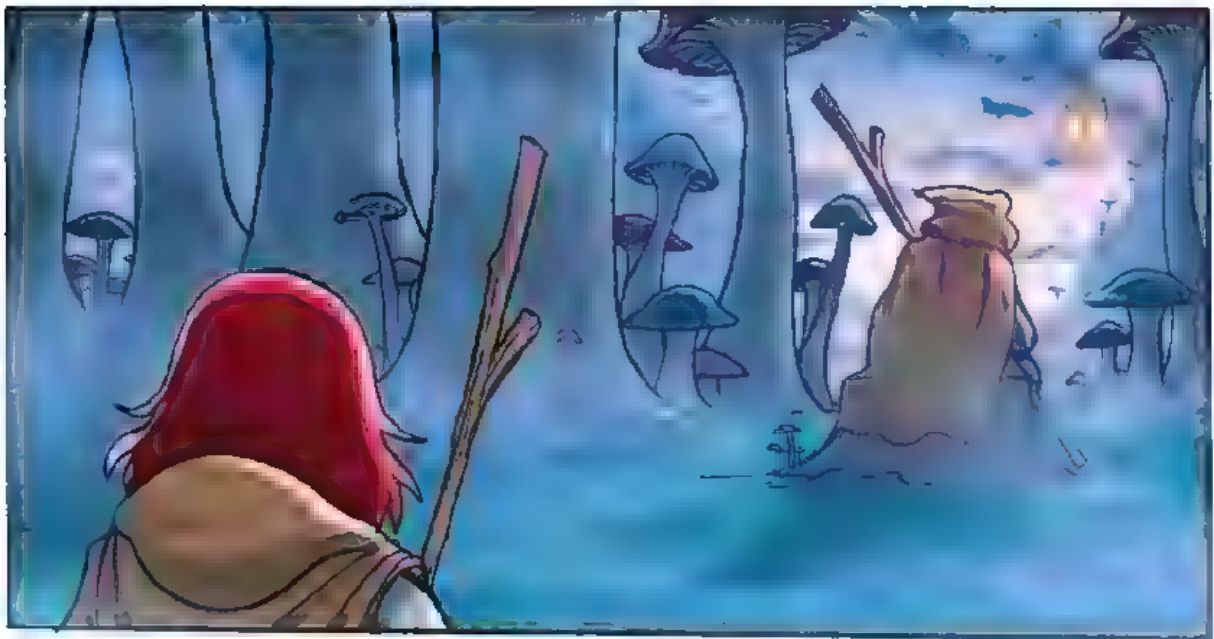
AND TAKE  
US TO THE  
SHADOWS.



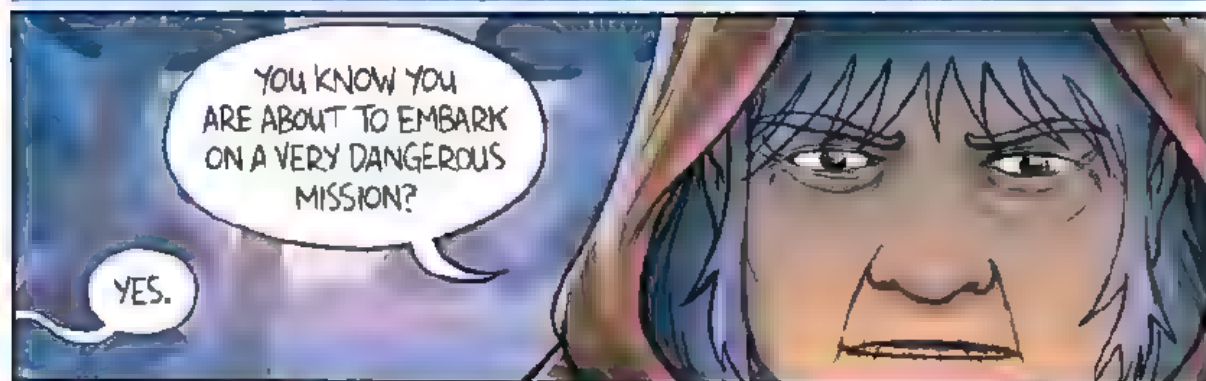
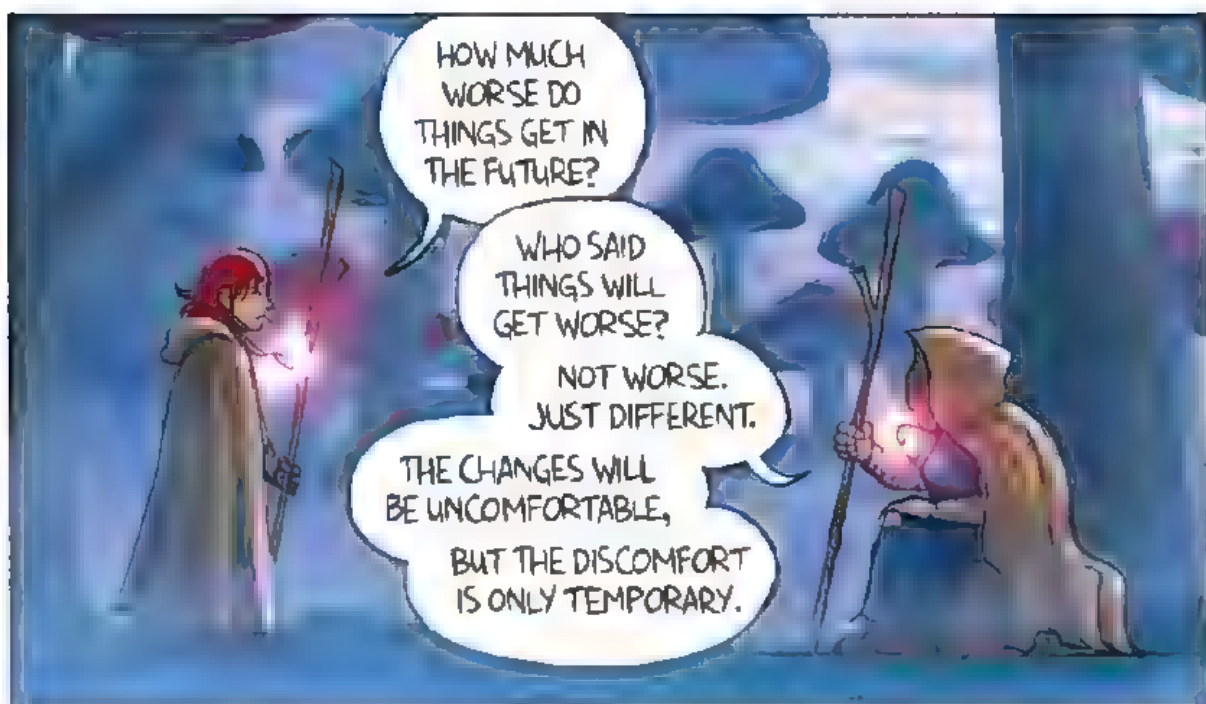


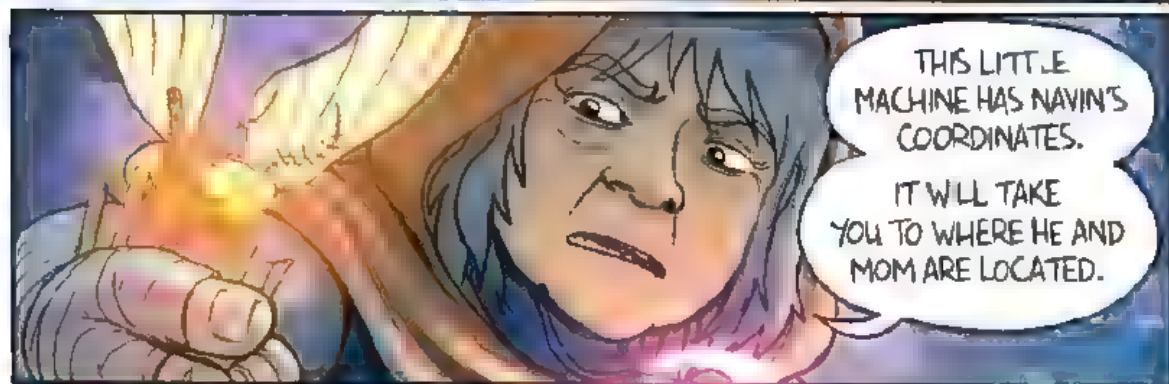




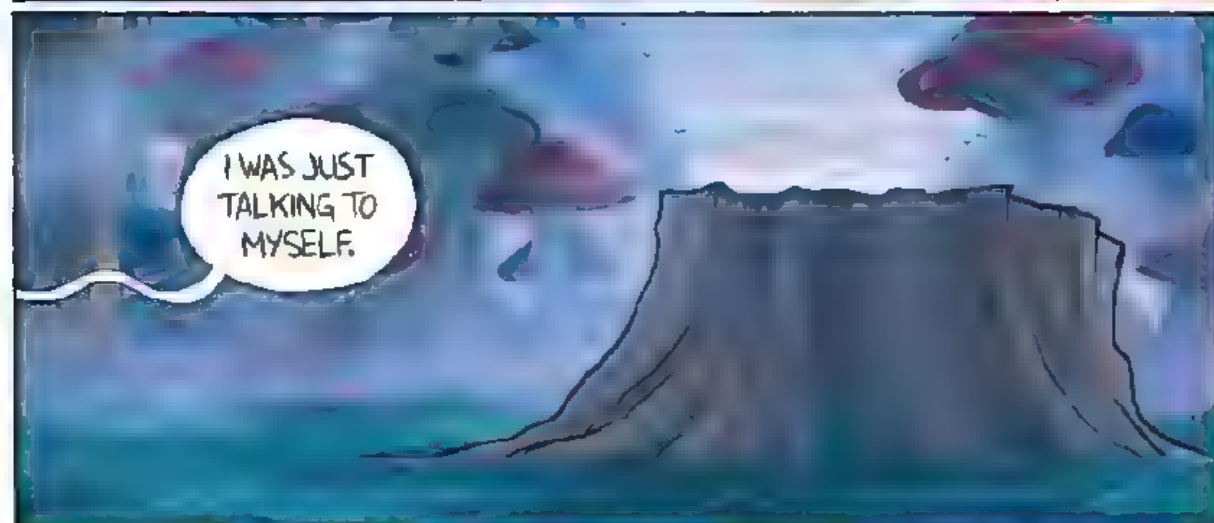
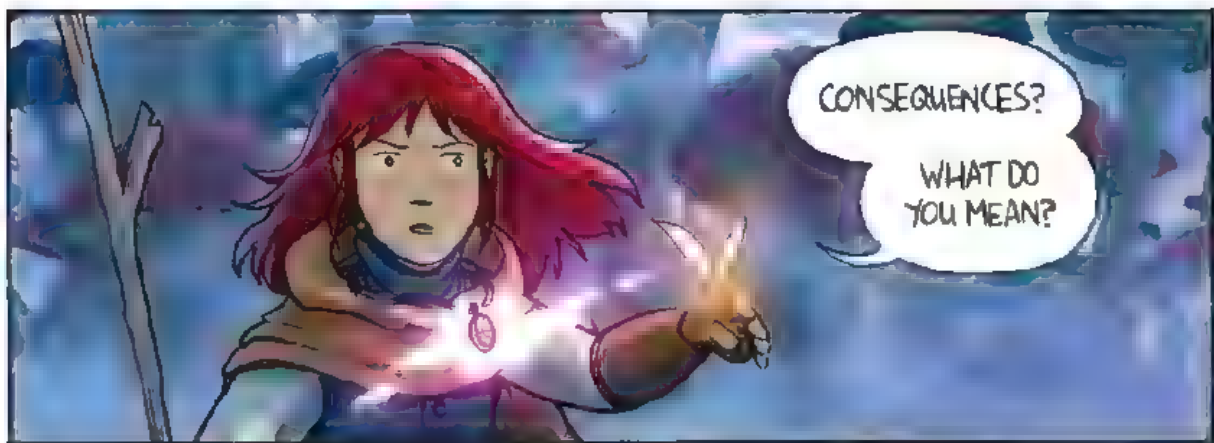


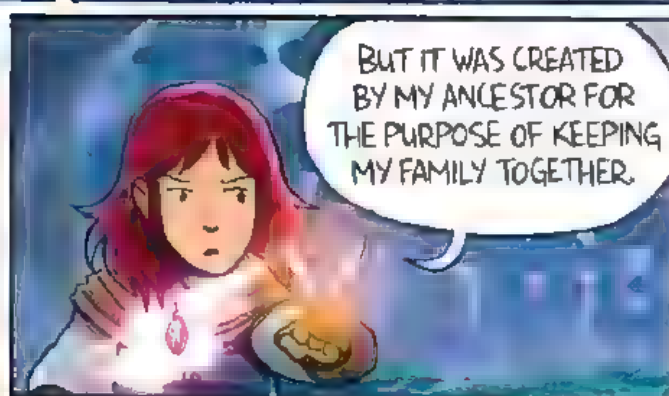
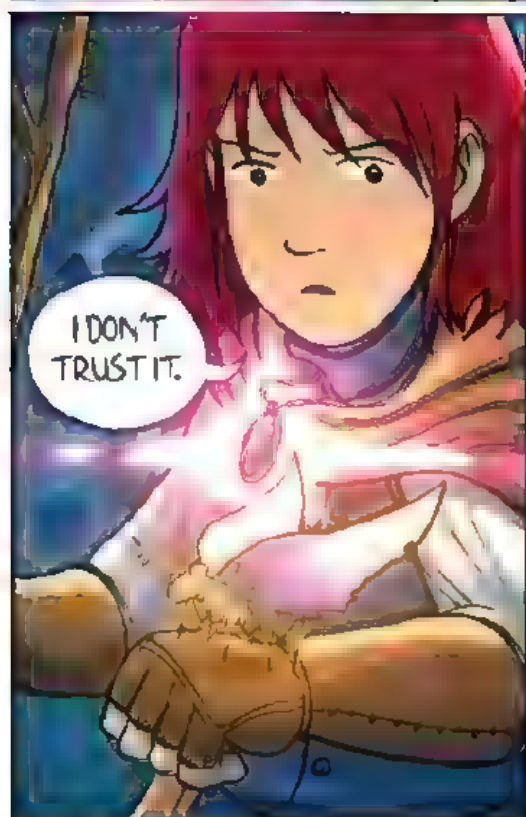
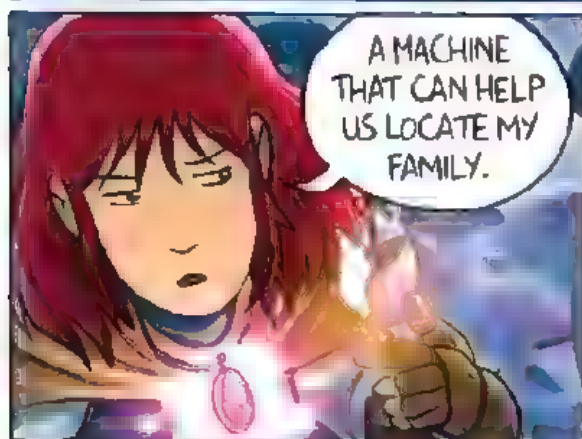




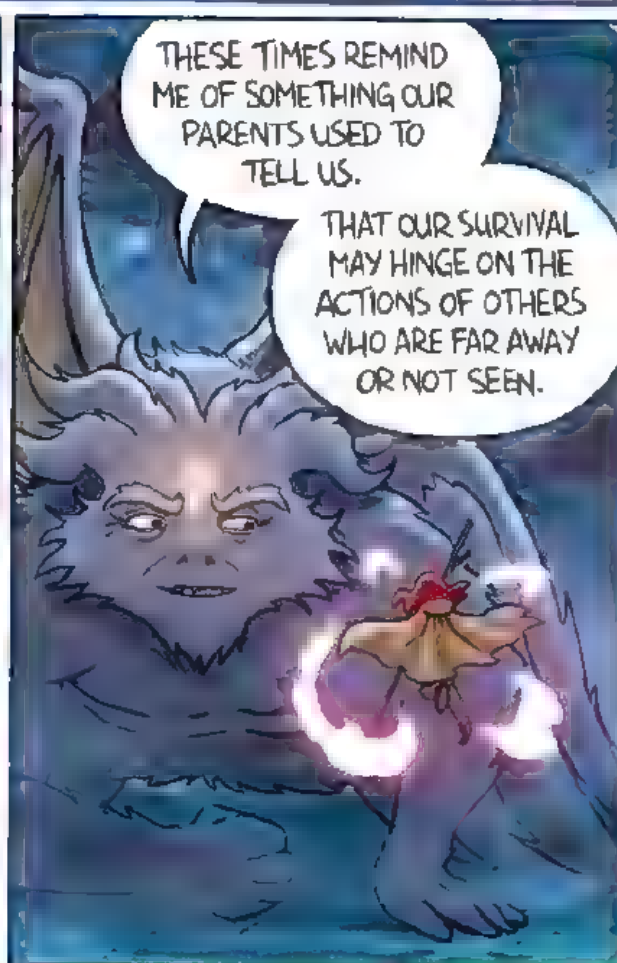
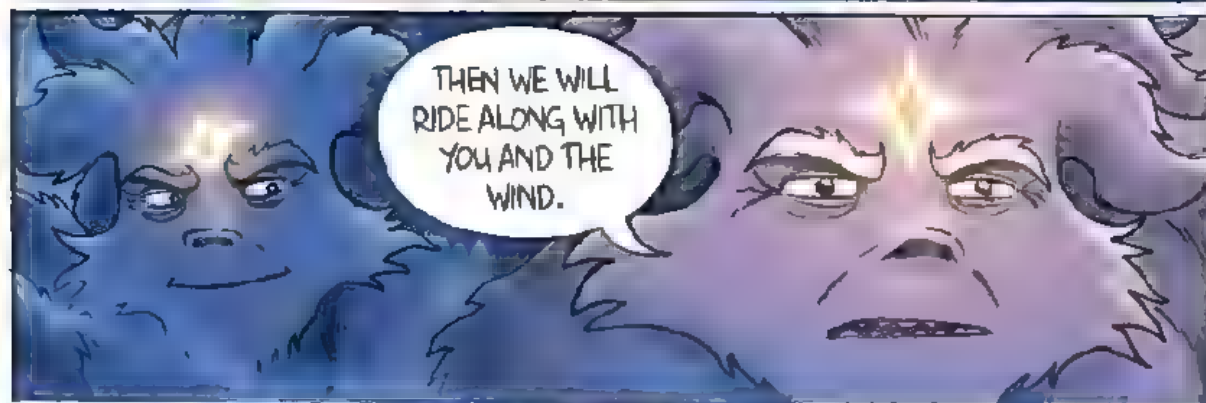


















DO WE REALLY  
HAVE TO REVIEW  
THIS MORE?

YES.

IF YOU ARE  
NOT PREPARED AND  
FOCUSED, YOU WILL  
FACE DEFEAT.

RUN IT  
AGAIN.

ARE YOU  
DOING OKAY,  
TRELLIS?



YES. I'M  
DOING FINE.

YOU DON'T  
LOOK LIKE IT.

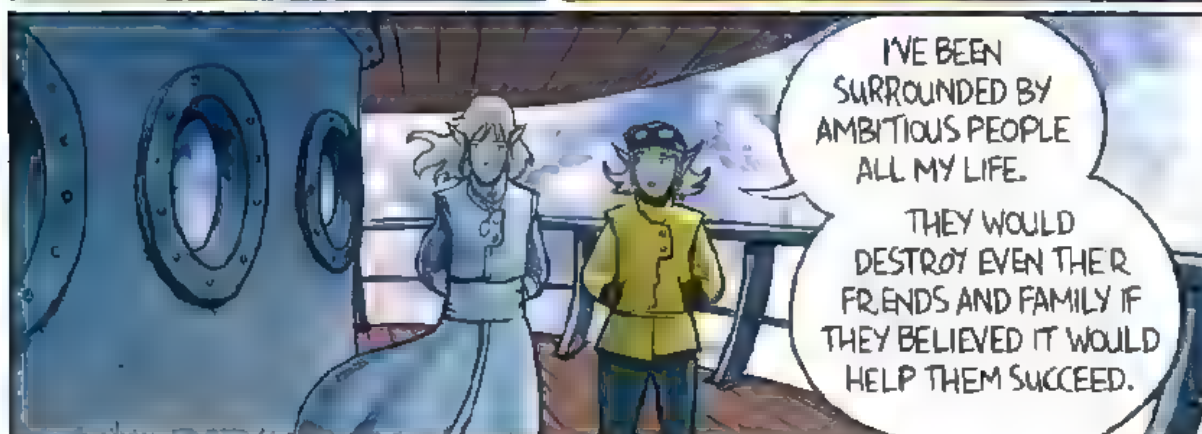


I'M THE FIRST  
IN MY FAMILY TO  
WALK AWAY FROM  
THE THRONE.

I'M AFRAID  
I HAVE LET MANY  
ELVES DOWN.

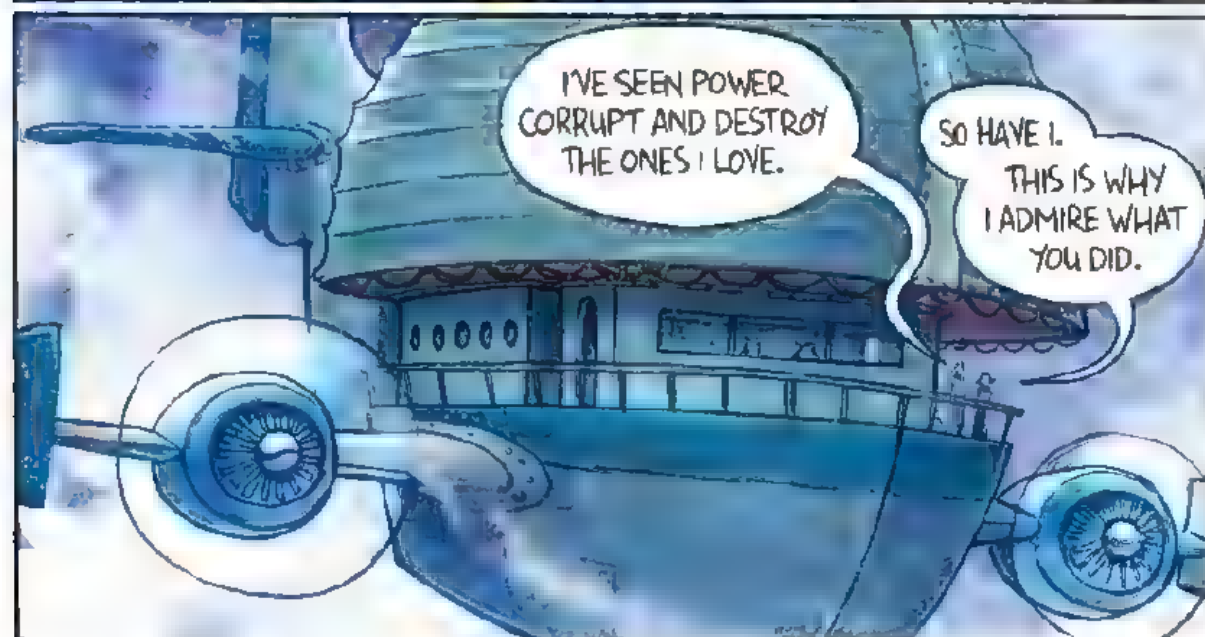
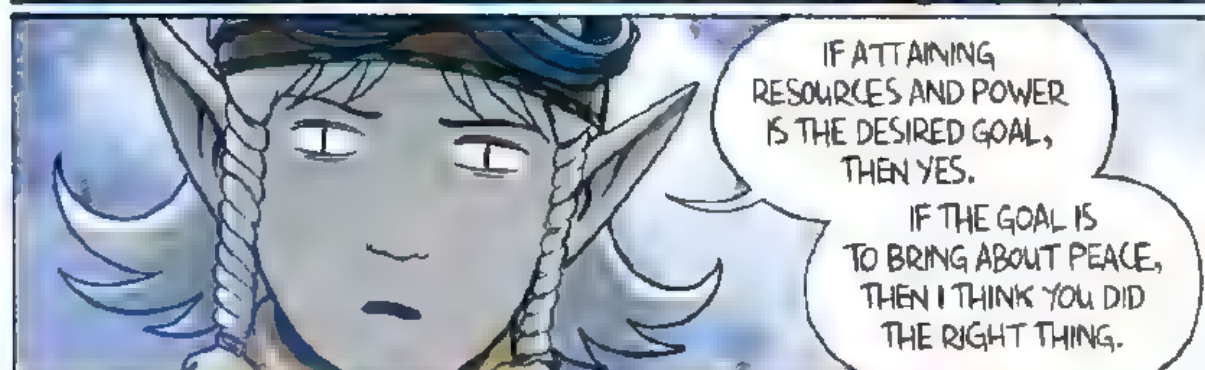


I THOUGHT  
WHAT YOU DID  
WAS ADMIRABLE.

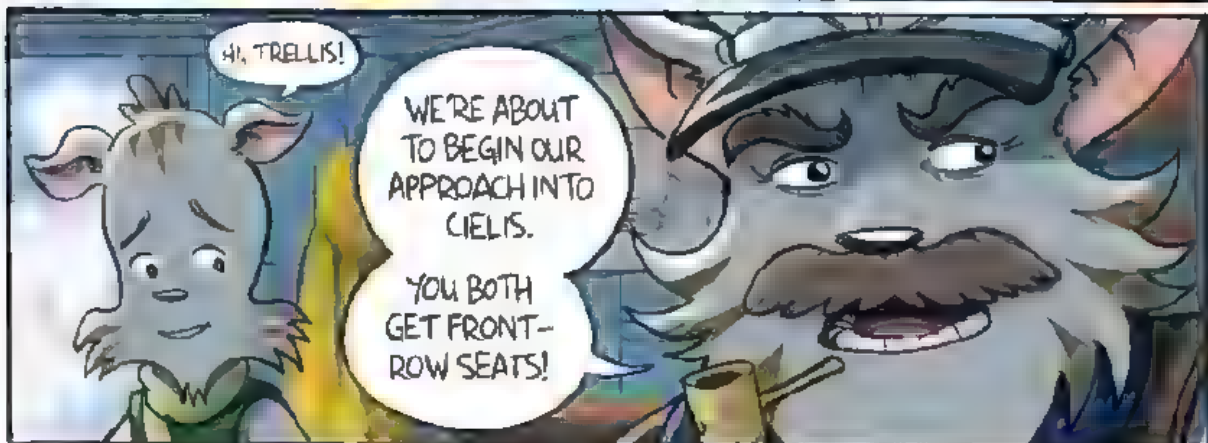
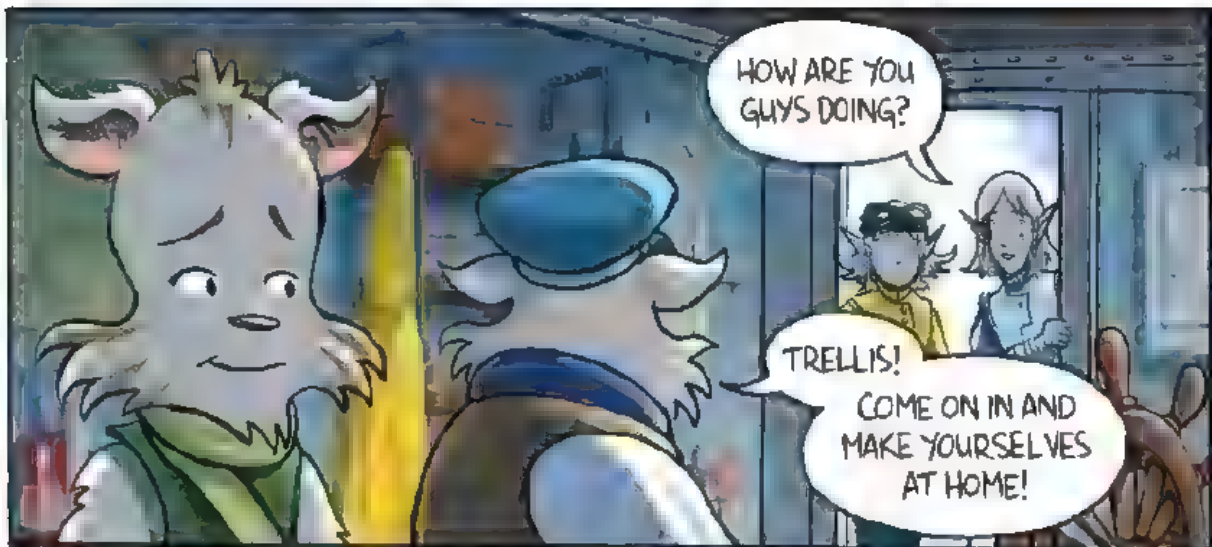


I'VE BEEN  
SURROUNDED BY  
AMBITIOUS PEOPLE  
ALL MY LIFE.

THEY WOULD  
DESTROY EVEN THEIR  
FRIENDS AND FAMILY IF  
THEY BELIEVED IT WOULD  
HELP THEM SUCCEED.



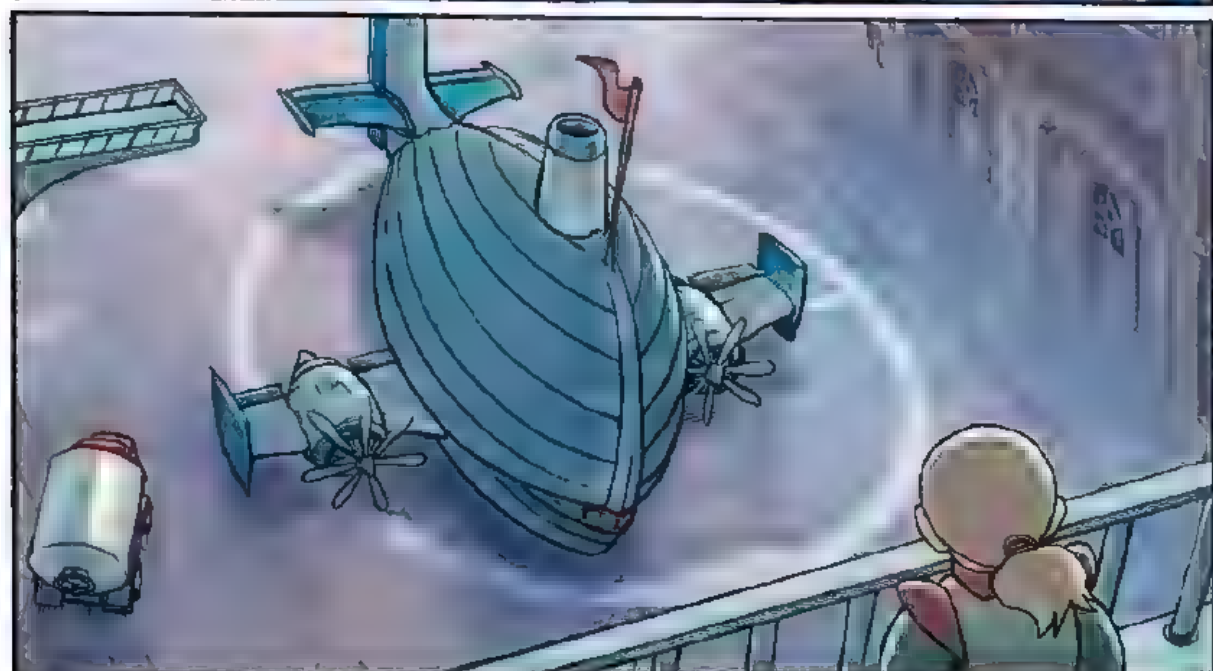
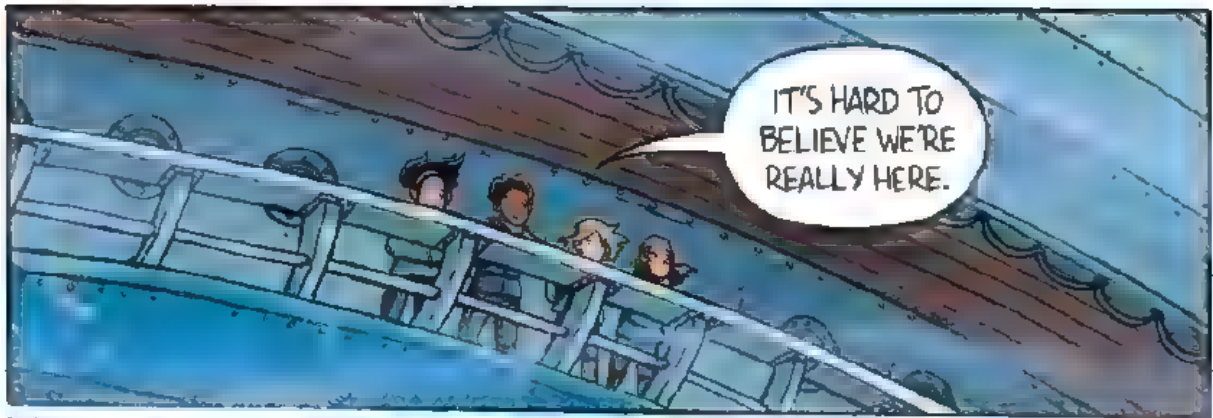


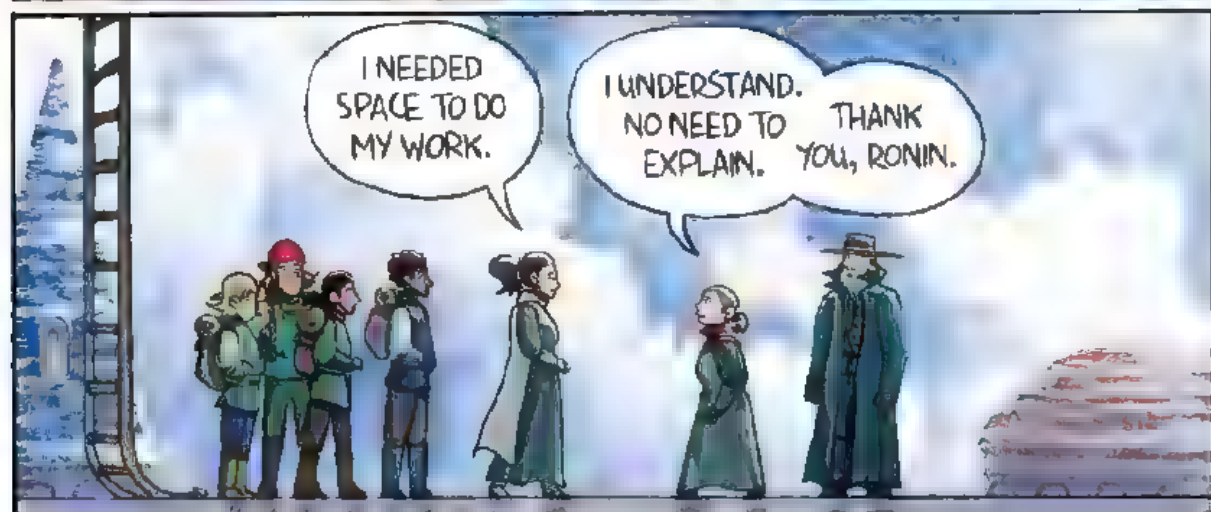




JUST LET ME  
ENJOY THIS FINAL,  
FLEETING MOMENT  
OF ADVENTURE.

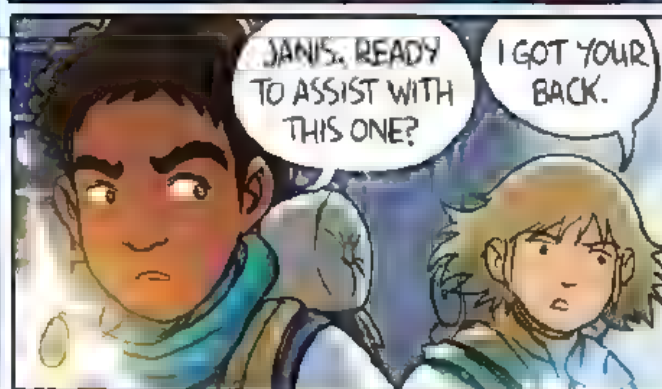




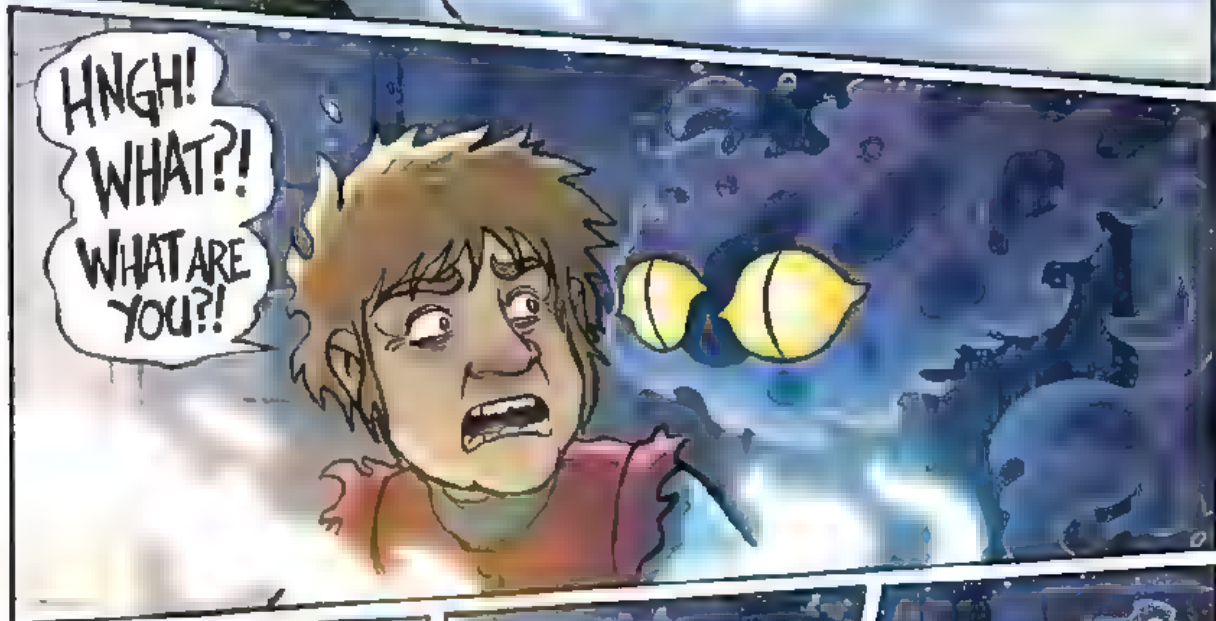














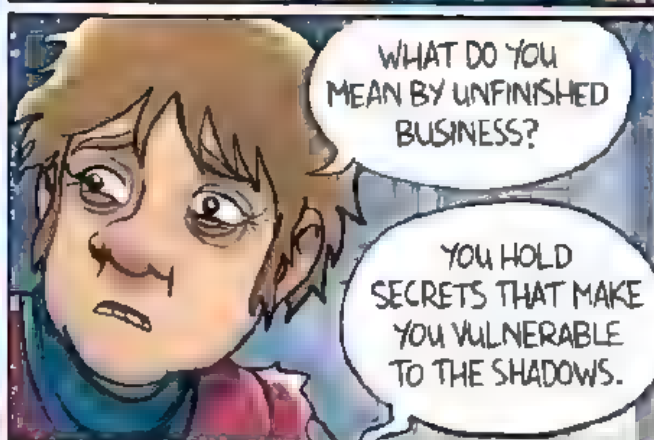
LISTEN, THE SHADOWS ARE GOING TO COME BACK FOR YOU, BUT YOU CAN KEEP THEM OUT OF YOUR HEAD IF YOU GET YOUR MIND RIGHT.



THEY FEED ON FEAR, FEELINGS OF GUILT, AND DOUBT.

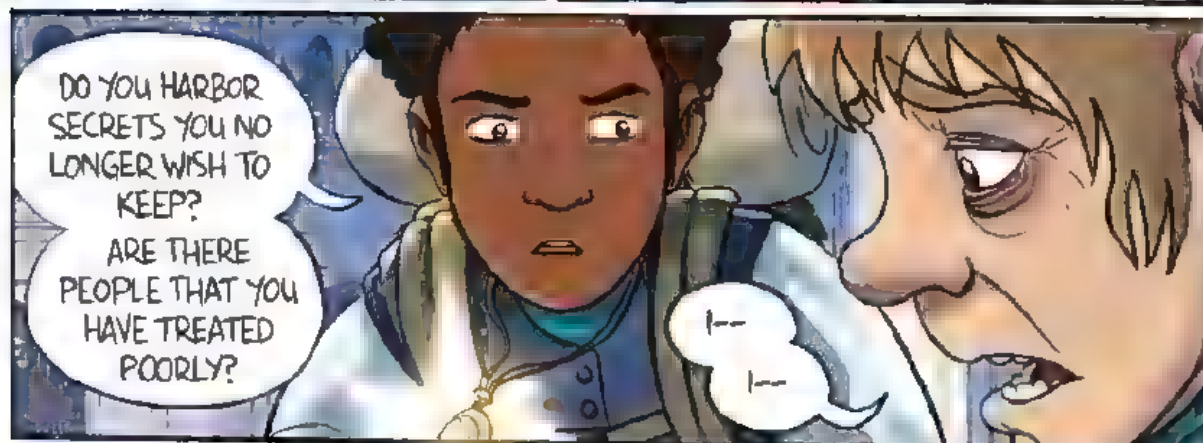
THINGS THAT EAT YOU UP INSIDE.

DO YOU HAVE UNFINISHED BUSINESS?



WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY UNFINISHED BUSINESS?

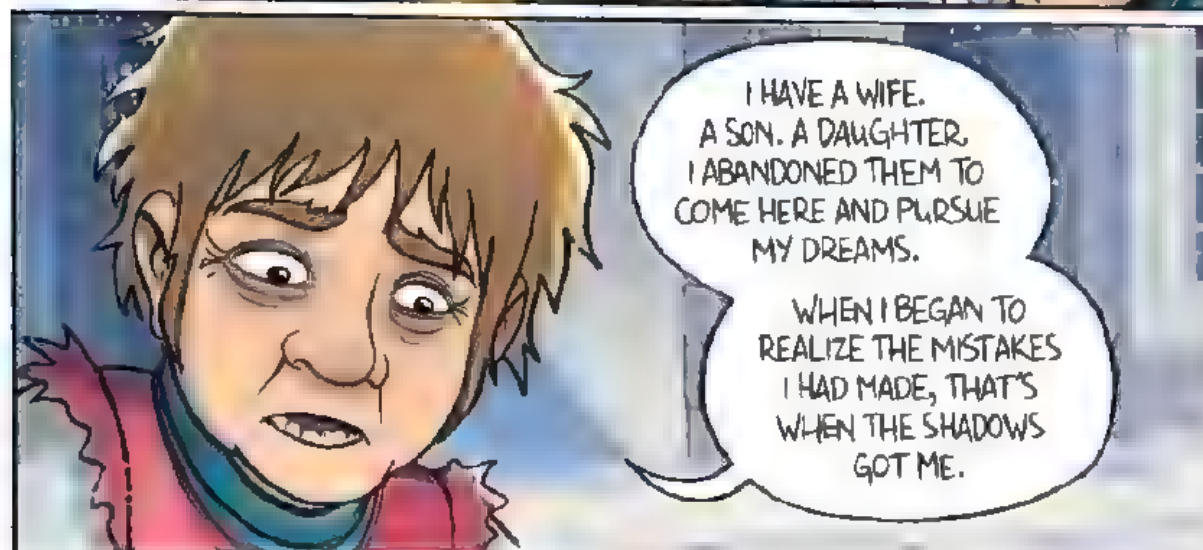
YOU HOLD SECRETS THAT MAKE YOU VULNERABLE TO THE SHADOWS.



DO YOU HARBOR SECRETS YOU NO LONGER WISH TO KEEP?

ARE THERE PEOPLE THAT YOU HAVE TREATED POORLY?

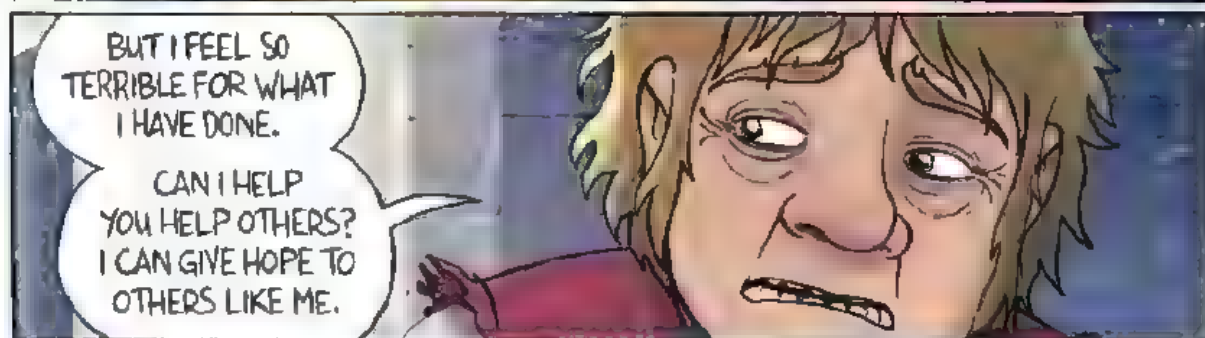
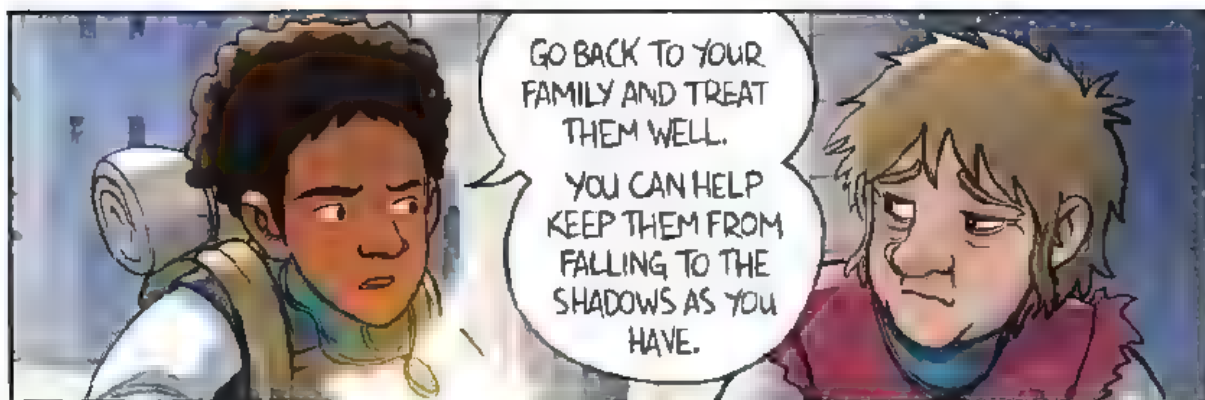
I--  
I--

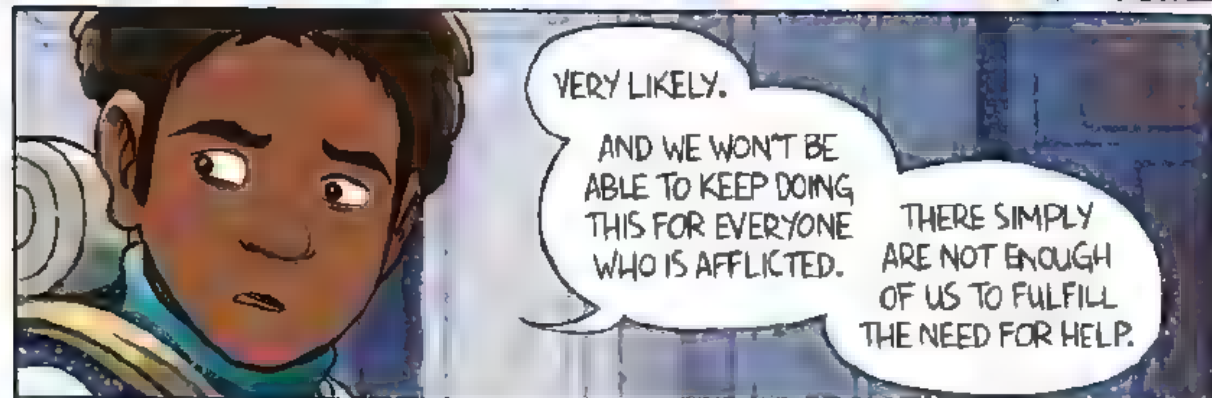


I HAVE A WIFE. A SON. A DAUGHTER. I ABANDONED THEM TO COME HERE AND PURSUE MY DREAMS.

WHEN I BEGAN TO REALIZE THE MISTAKES I HAD MADE, THAT'S WHEN THE SHADOWS GOT ME.





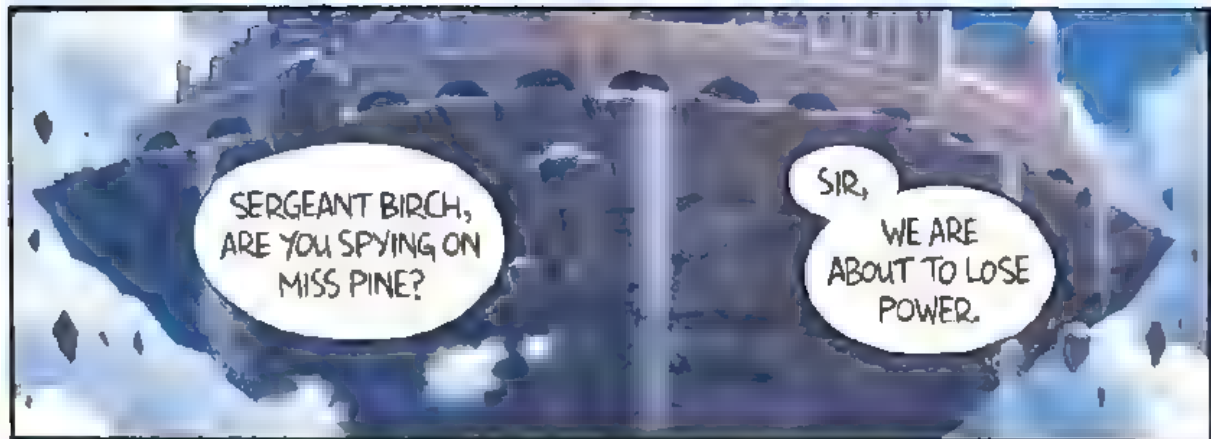






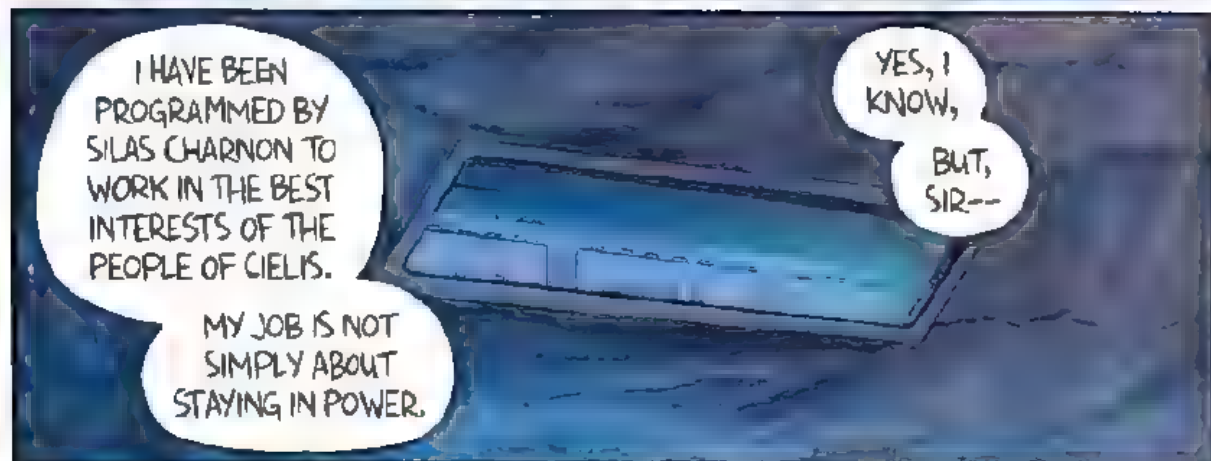
GENERAL PUK,  
WE HAVE EVIDENCE TO  
SUGGEST THERE IS A PLOT  
TO TAKE CONTROL OF  
CIEL'S AWAY FROM US.

THE RINGLEADER IS  
OUR CHIEF ARCHITECT,  
MAY PINE.



SERGEANT BIRCH,  
ARE YOU SPYING ON  
MISS PINE?

SIR,  
WE ARE  
ABOUT TO LOSE  
POWER.



I HAVE BEEN  
PROGRAMMED BY  
SILAS CHARNON TO  
WORK IN THE BEST  
INTERESTS OF THE  
PEOPLE OF CIEL'S.

MY JOB IS NOT  
SIMPLY ABOUT  
STAYING IN POWER.

YES, I  
KNOW,  
BUT,  
SIR--



PLEASE  
TELL EVERYONE  
TO PREPARE TO GIVE  
CONTROL BACK TO THE  
GUARDIAN COUNCIL.

SIR, NO!

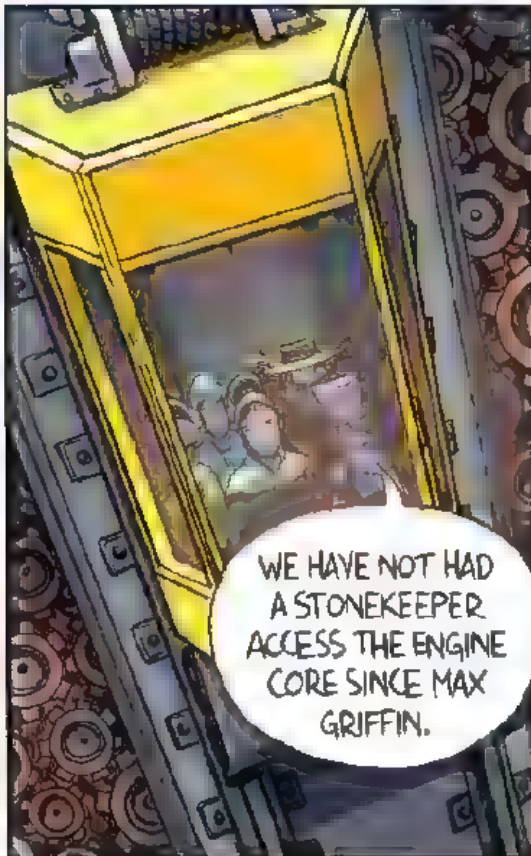




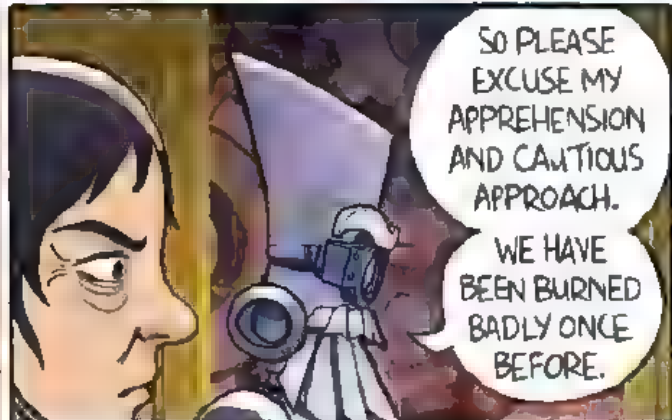


WE NEED ACCESS  
TO THE ENGINE  
CORE BENEATH  
CIELIS.

PLEASE  
TAKE US  
THERE.

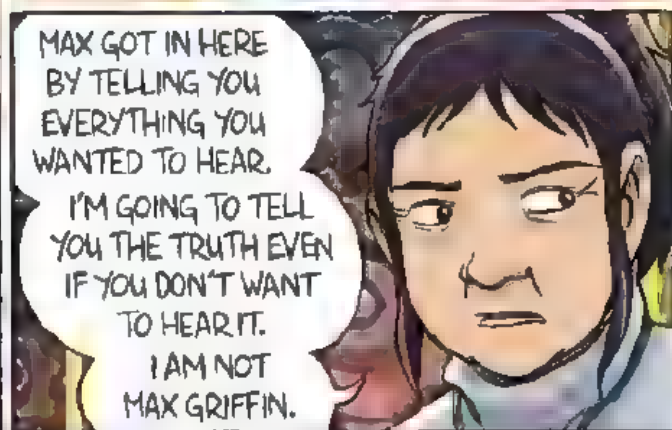


WE HAVE NOT HAD  
A STONEKEEPER  
ACCESS THE ENGINE  
CORE SINCE MAX  
GRIFFIN.



SO PLEASE  
EXCUSE MY  
APPREHENSION  
AND CAUTIOUS  
APPROACH.

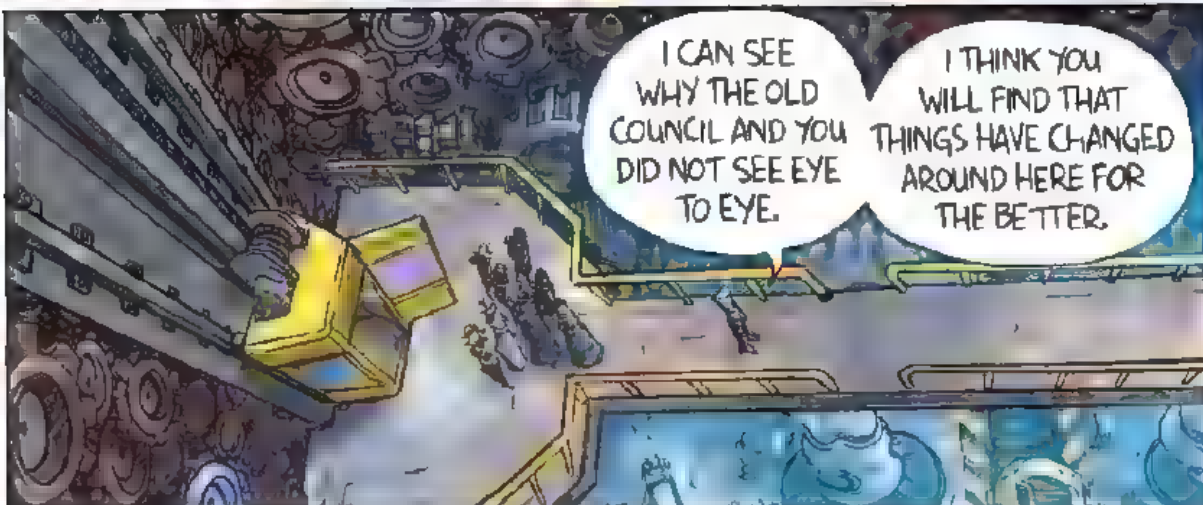
WE HAVE  
BEEN BURNED  
BADLY ONCE  
BEFORE.



MAX GOT IN HERE  
BY TELLING YOU  
EVERYTHING YOU  
WANTED TO HEAR.

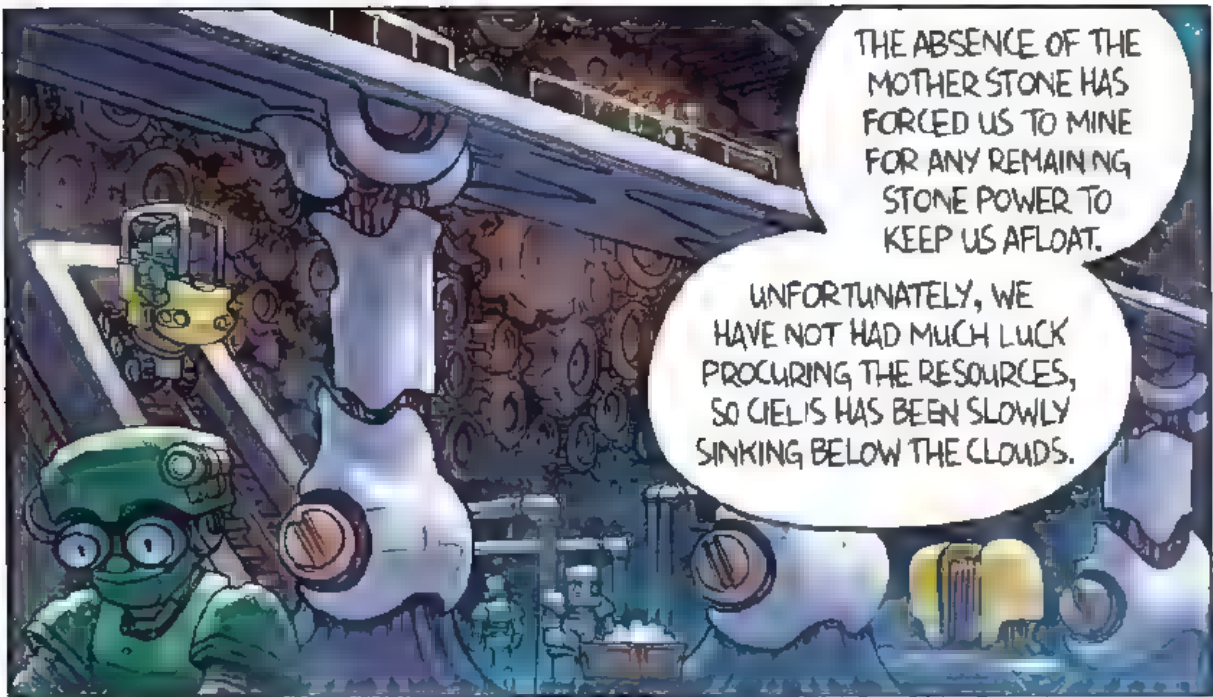
I'M GOING TO TELL  
YOU THE TRUTH EVEN  
IF YOU DON'T WANT  
TO HEAR IT.

I AM NOT  
MAX GRIFFIN.



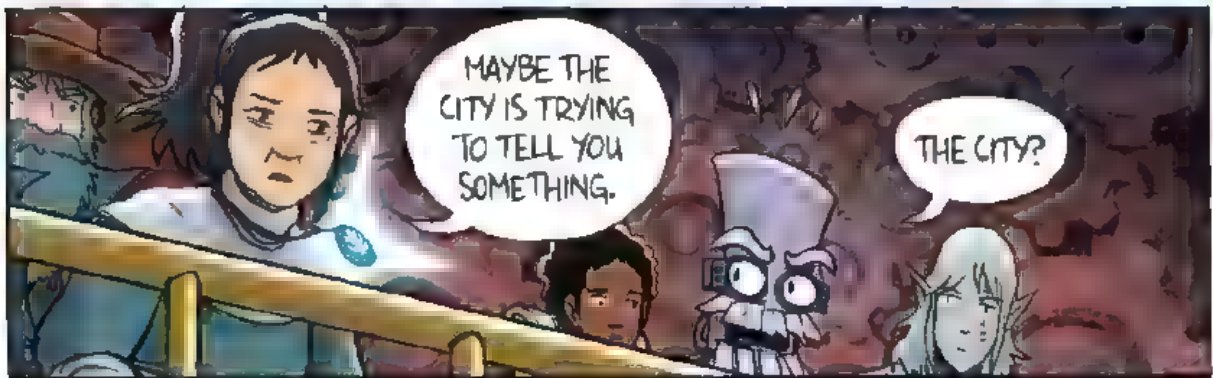
I CAN SEE  
WHY THE OLD  
COUNCIL AND YOU  
DID NOT SEE EYE  
TO EYE.

I THINK YOU  
WILL FIND THAT  
THINGS HAVE CHANGED  
AROUND HERE FOR  
THE BETTER.



THE ABSENCE OF THE MOTHER STONE HAS FORCED US TO MINE FOR ANY REMAINING STONE POWER TO KEEP US AFLOAT.

UNFORTUNATELY, WE HAVE NOT HAD MUCH LUCK PROCURING THE RESOURCES, SO CIEL'S HAS BEEN SLOWLY SINKING BELOW THE CLOUDS.



MAYBE THE CITY IS TRYING TO TELL YOU SOMETHING.

THE CITY?



IT SEEMS TO WANT TO RETURN TO THE GROUND. WHY FORCE IT TO REMAIN IN THE CLOUDS?



BECAUSE THAT IS HOW IT'S ALWAYS BEEN.

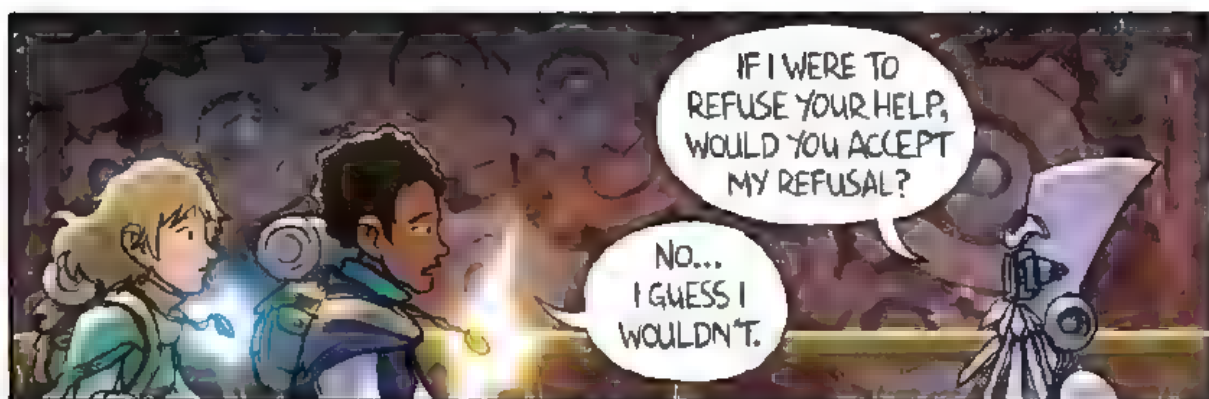
WE CAN'T JUST CHANGE EVERYTHING.



WHY NOT?

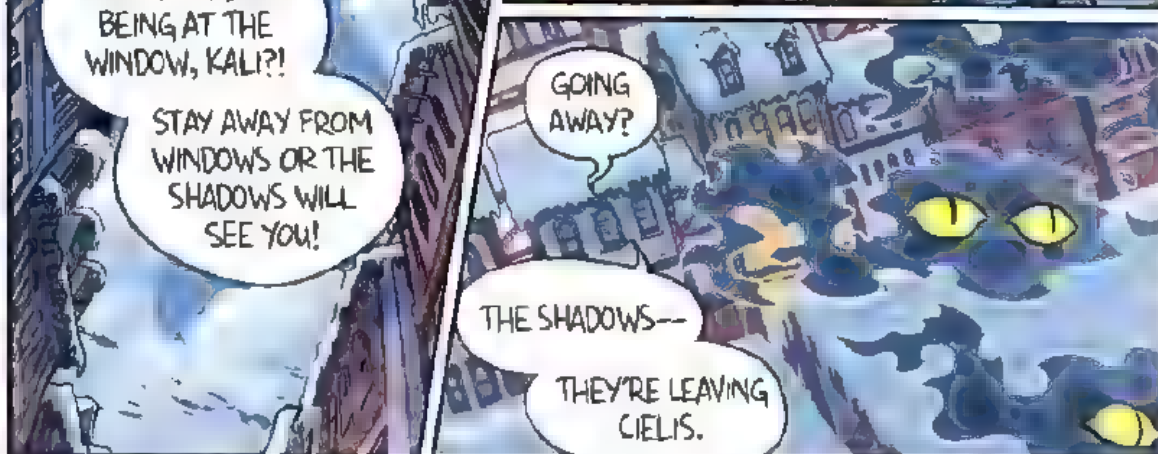
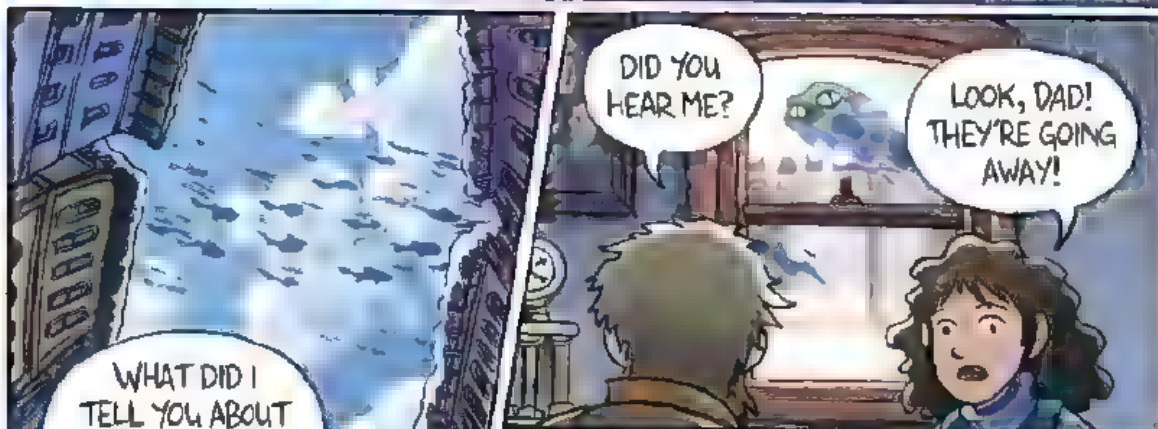
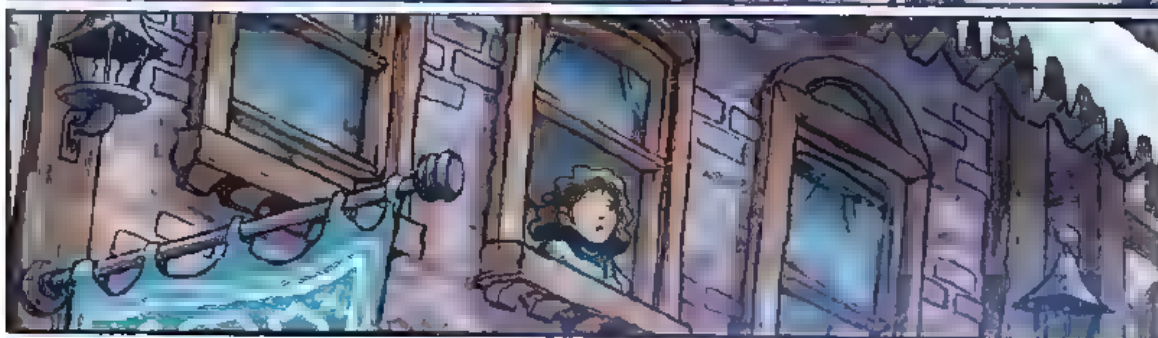
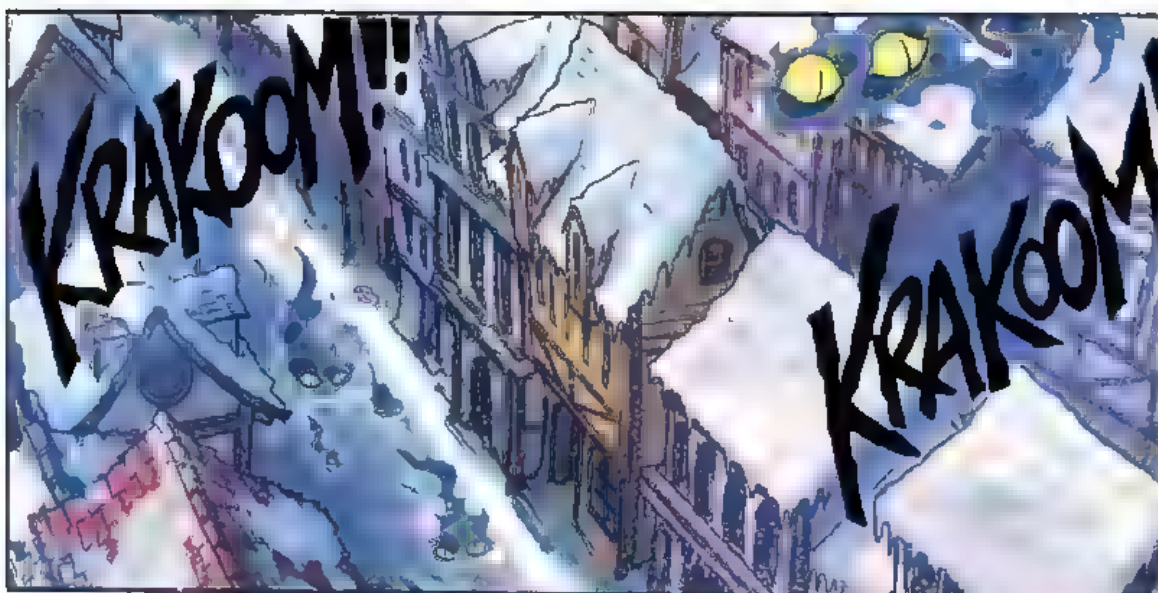
IF YOU'RE AFRAID OF CHANGING THINGS, LET US HELP.

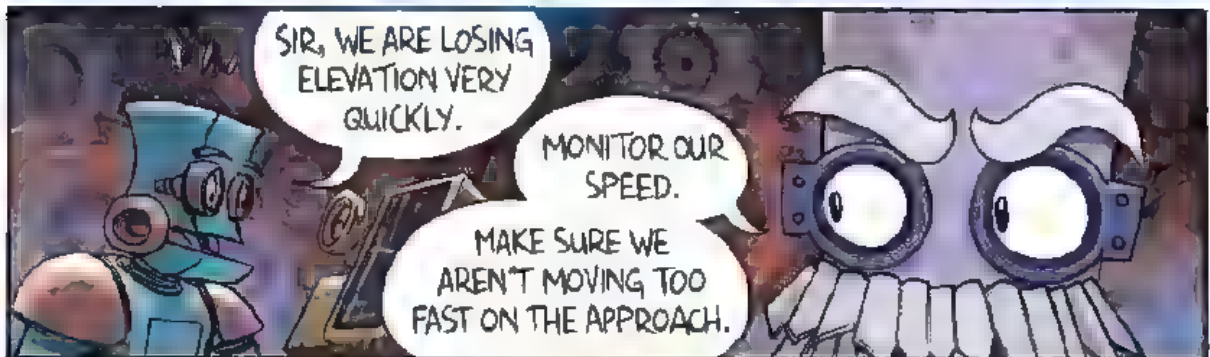












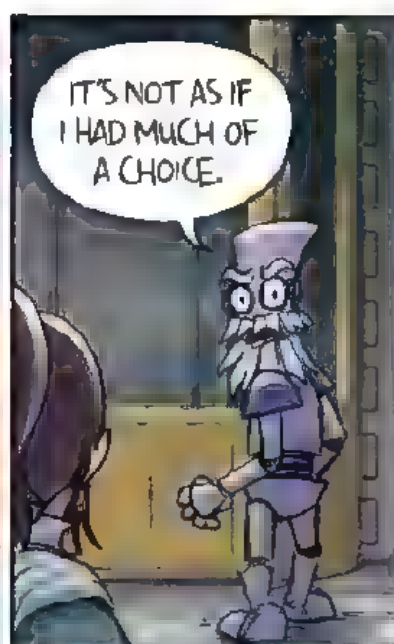




THEY ARE  
GOOD STUDENTS.  
YOU TAUGHT  
THEM WELL.



THANK YOU  
FOR ACCEPTING  
THEM. AND FOR  
ACCEPTING  
ME.



IT'S NOT AS IF  
I HAD MUCH OF  
A CHOICE.



AS SOON AS  
THEY FEEL THEY  
NO LONGER NEED  
US, THEY WILL BE  
ADVERSARIES  
AGAIN.

HOW DID  
YOU DEAL  
WITH IT?

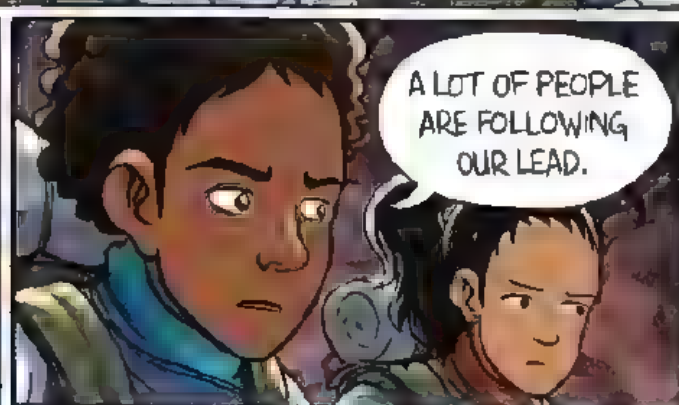


I WENT AWAY  
AND LIVED ON A  
REMOTE ISLAND.

UNTIL SILAS'S TOYS  
FOUND A WAY TO  
BRING ME BACK.

I DON'T  
BELIEVE THIS IS  
A RESPONSIBILITY  
WE CAN JUST WALK  
AWAY FROM.

I RECOMMEND  
MAKING THE BEST  
OF IT.

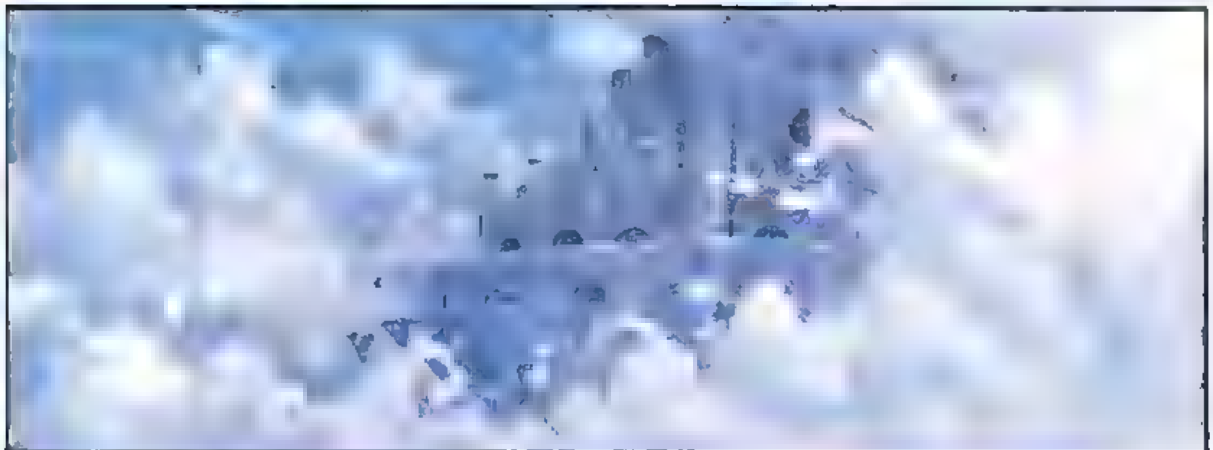
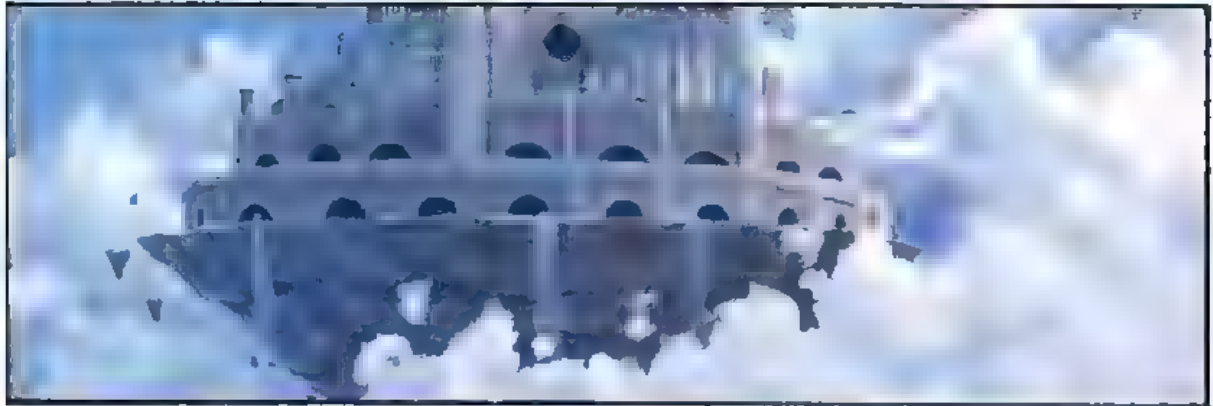
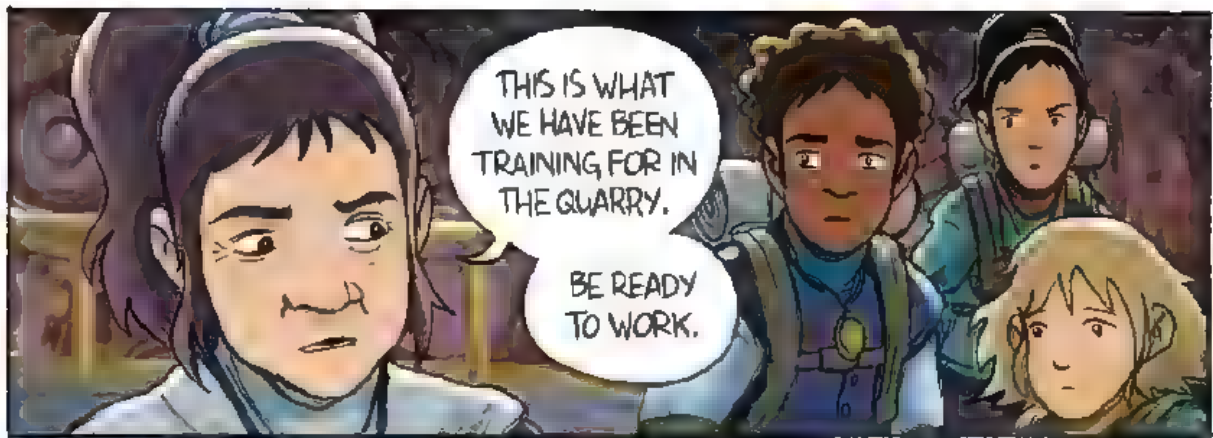


A LOT OF PEOPLE  
ARE FOLLOWING  
OUR LEAD.



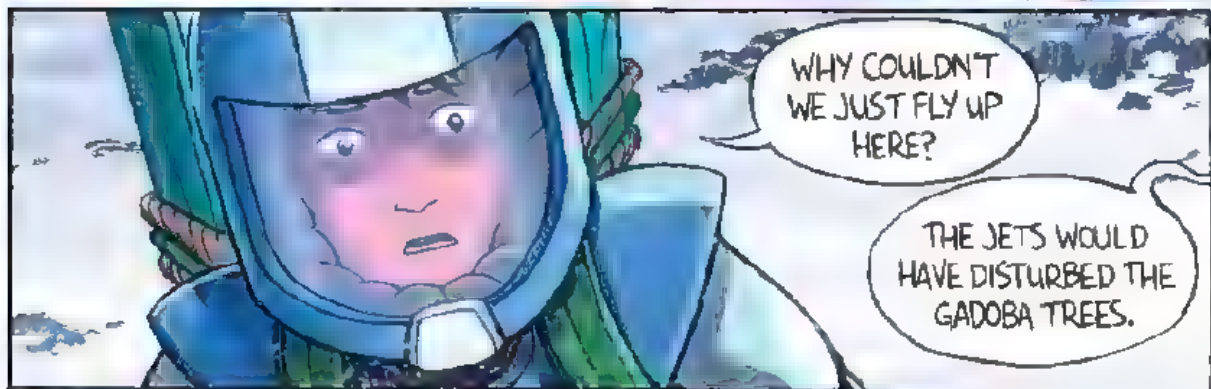
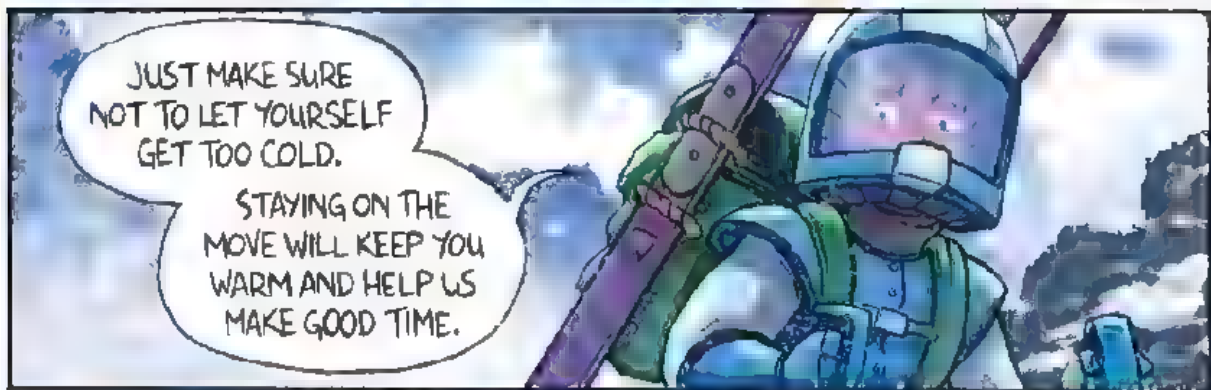
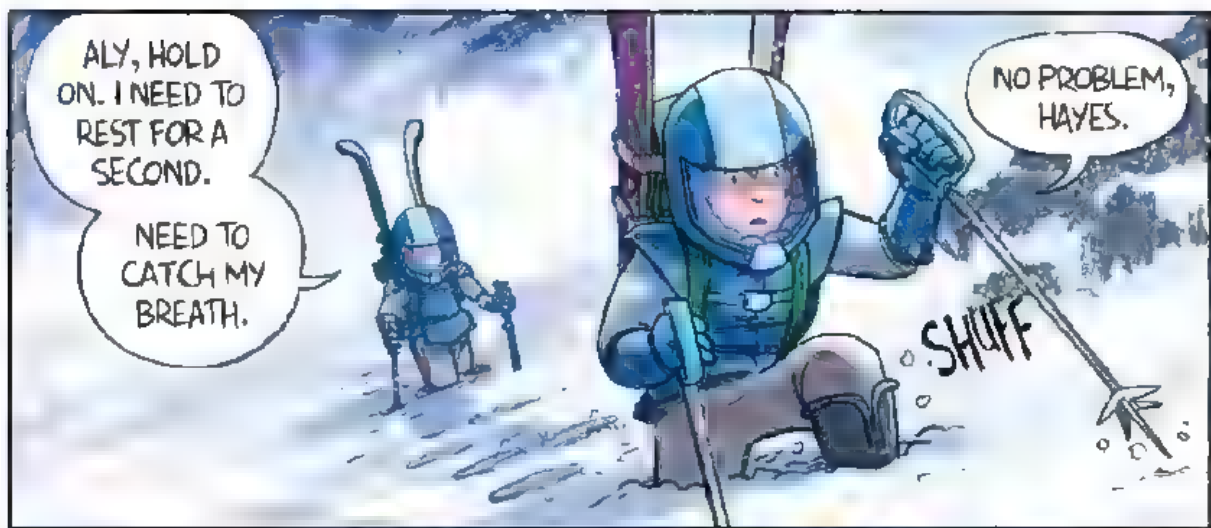
YES.

WE TALKED ABOUT  
THIS FOR YEARS AND  
NOW IT'S HERE.

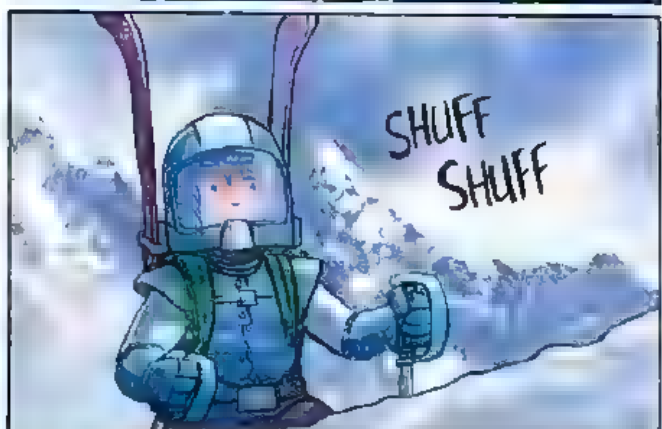


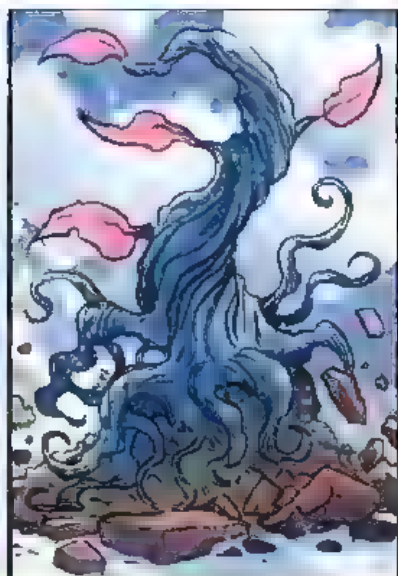
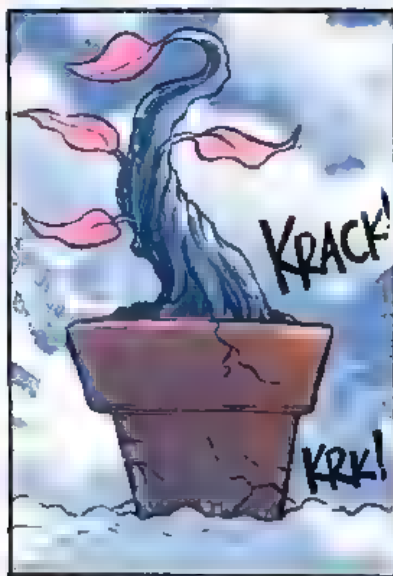
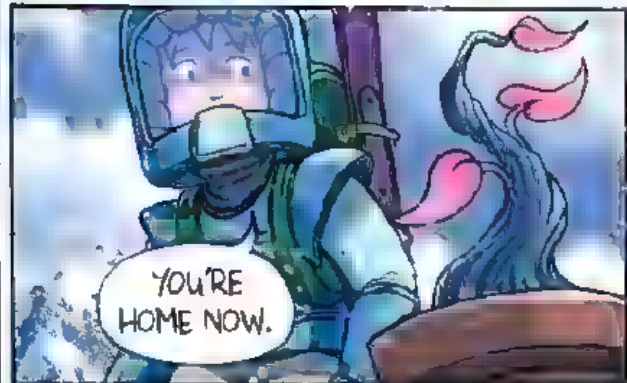
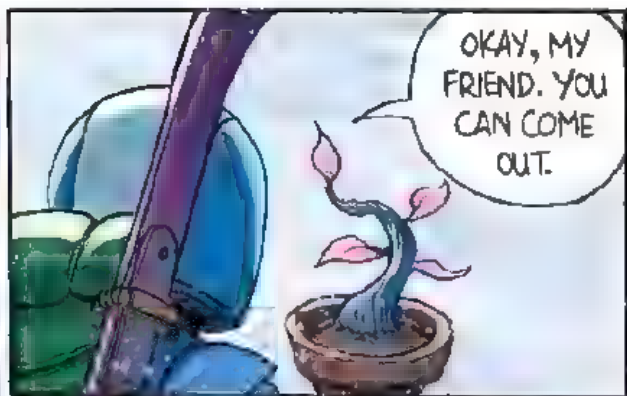
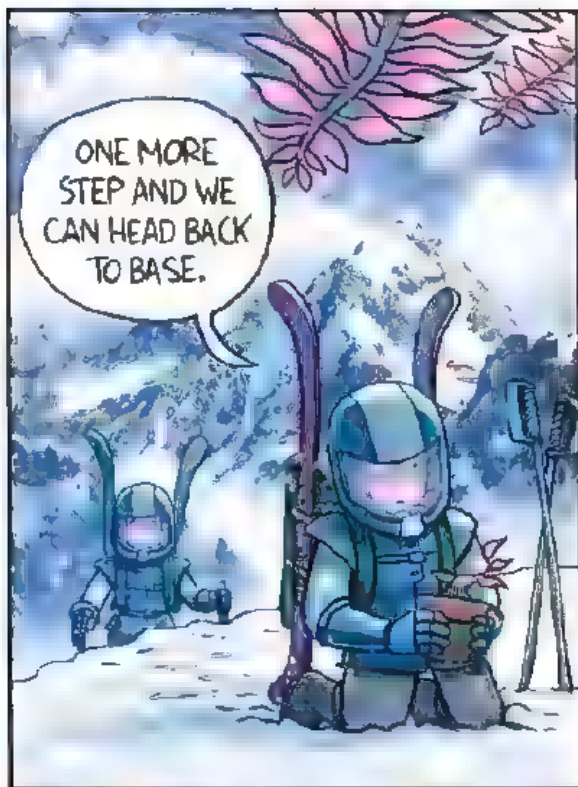




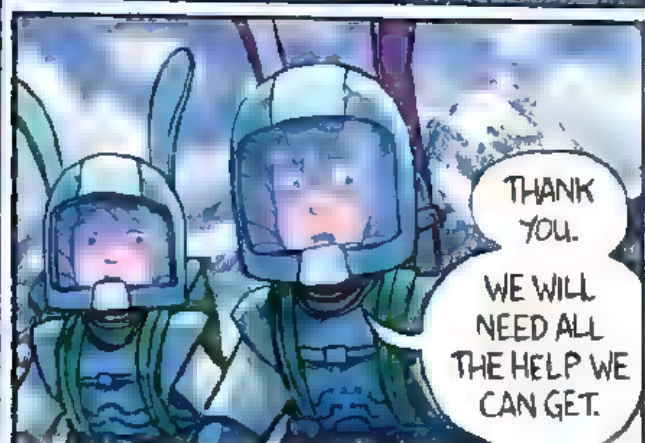


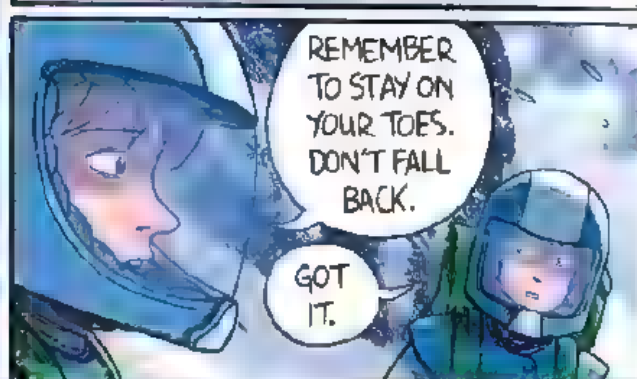
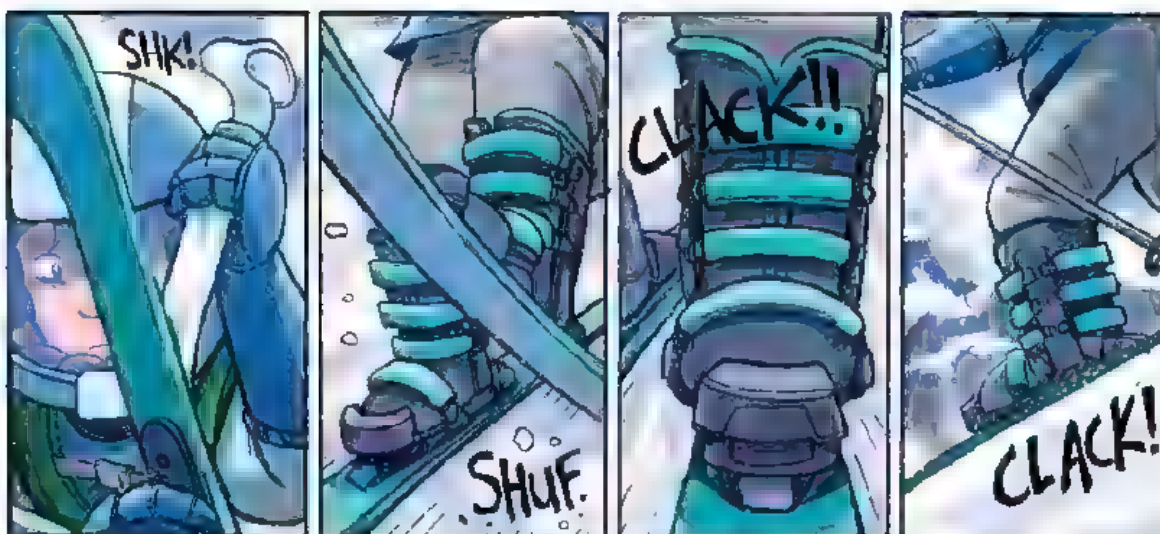






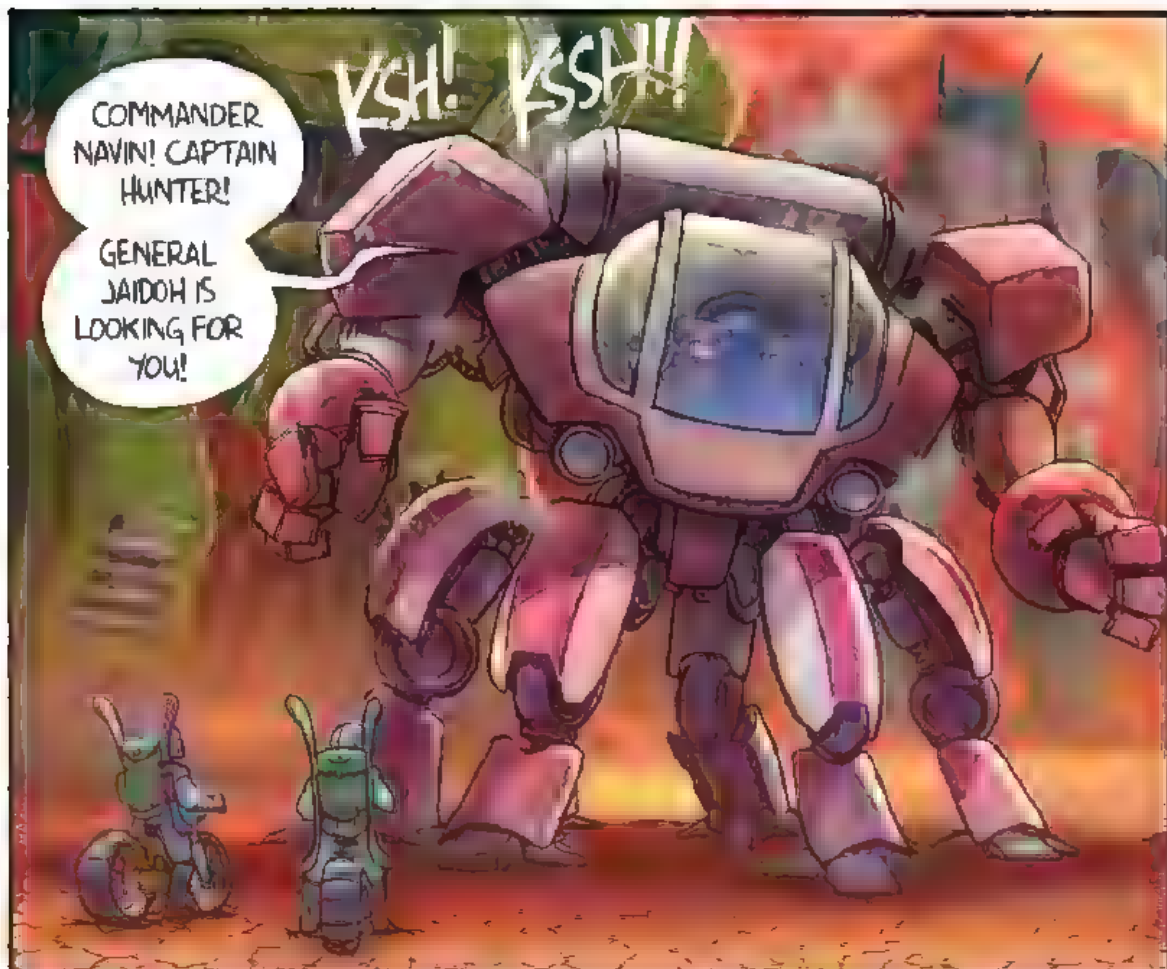








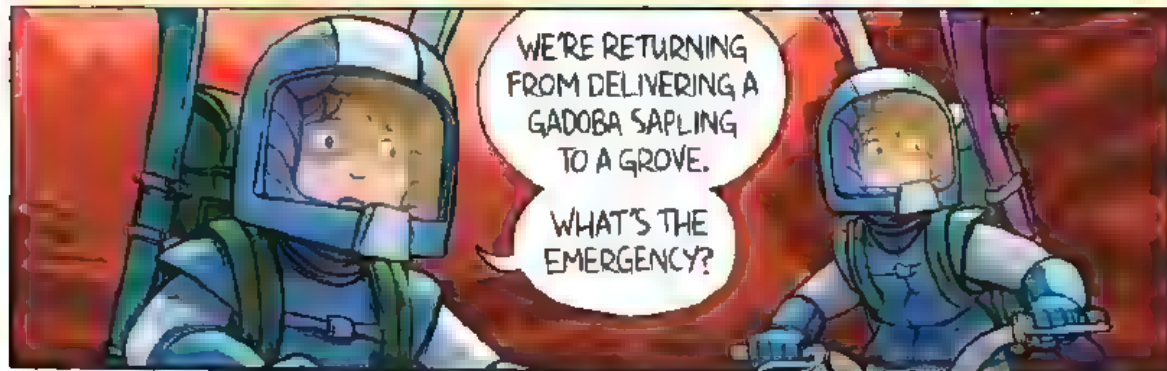




COMMANDER  
NAVIN! CAPTAIN  
HUNTER!

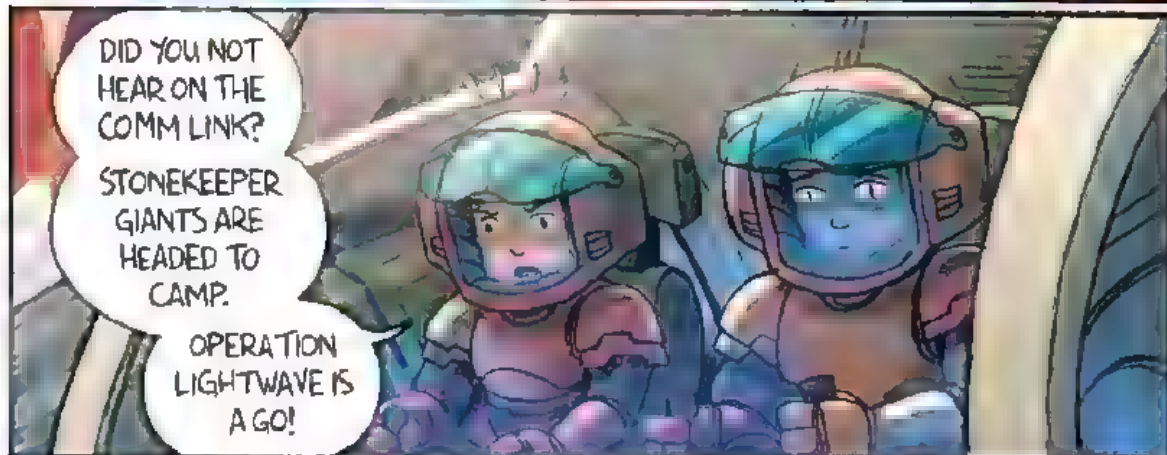
GENERAL  
JAIDOH IS  
LOOKING FOR  
YOU!

VSH! VSSH!!



WE'RE RETURNING  
FROM DELIVERING A  
GADOBA SAPLING  
TO A GROVE.

WHAT'S THE  
EMERGENCY?

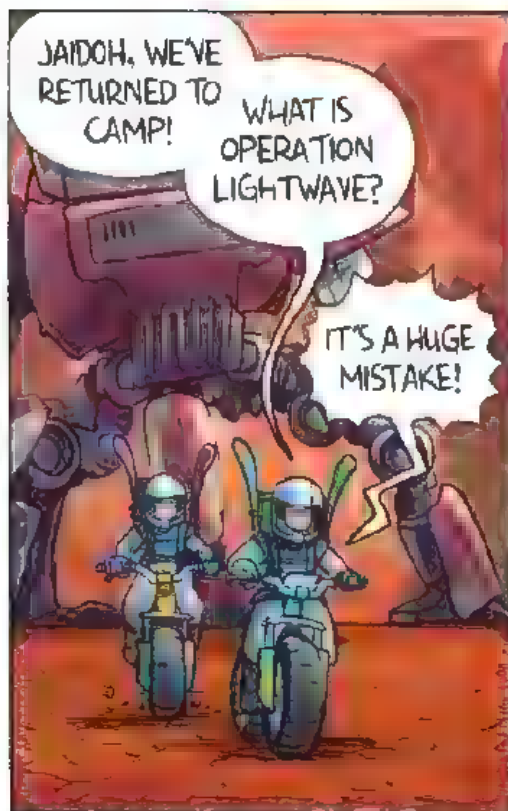


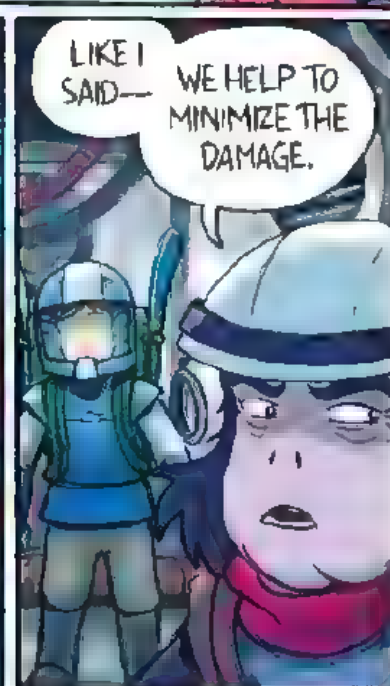
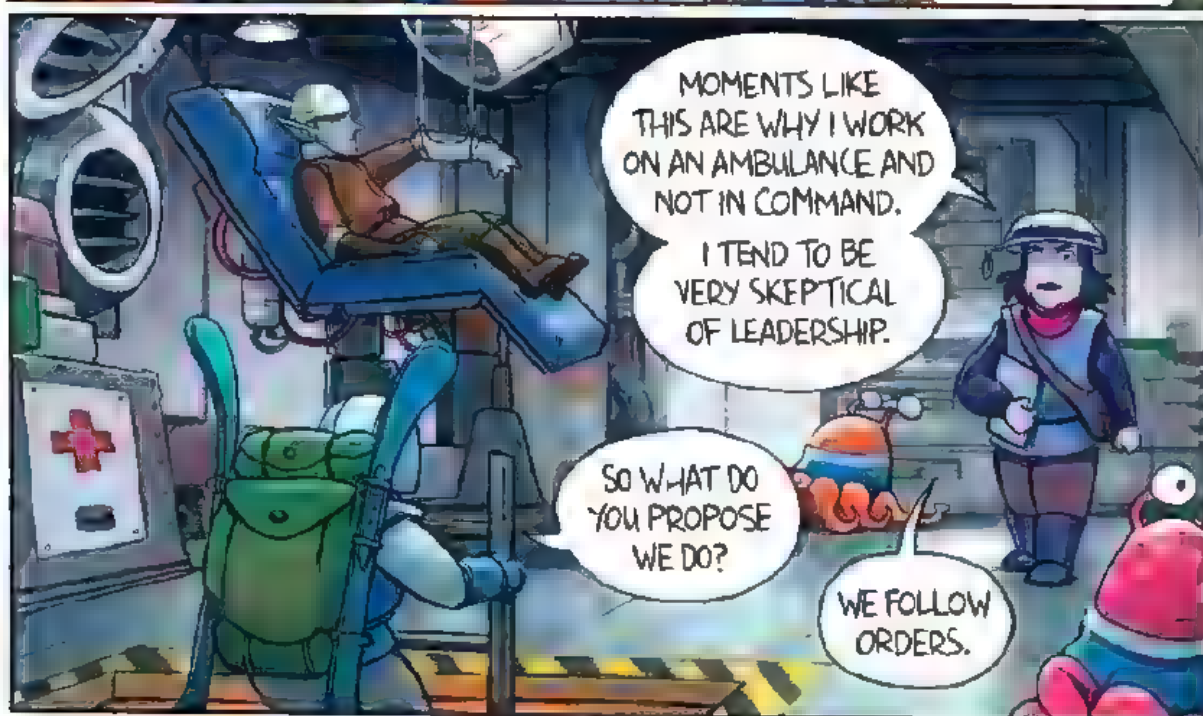
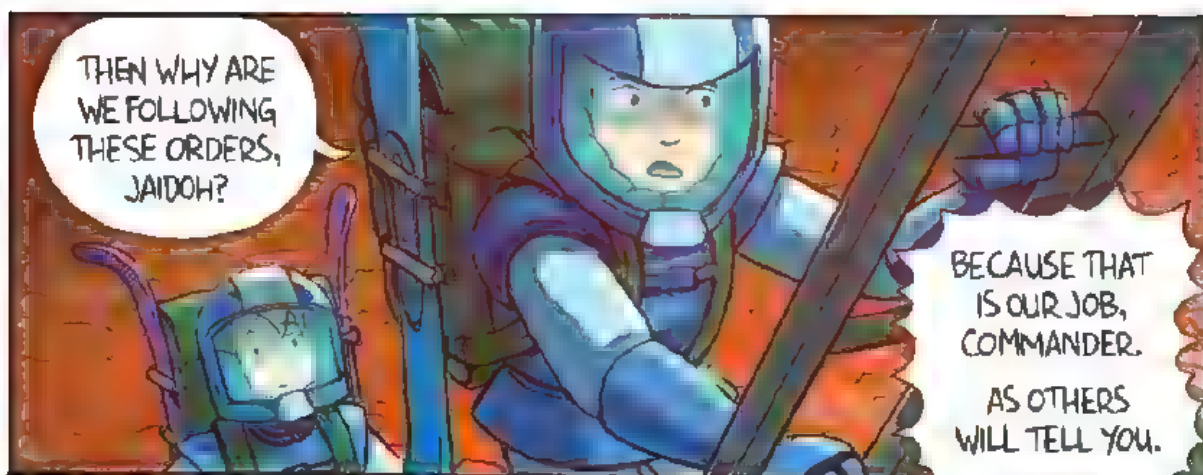
DID YOU NOT  
HEAR ON THE  
COMM LINK?

STONEKEEPER  
GIANTS ARE  
HEADED TO  
CAMP.

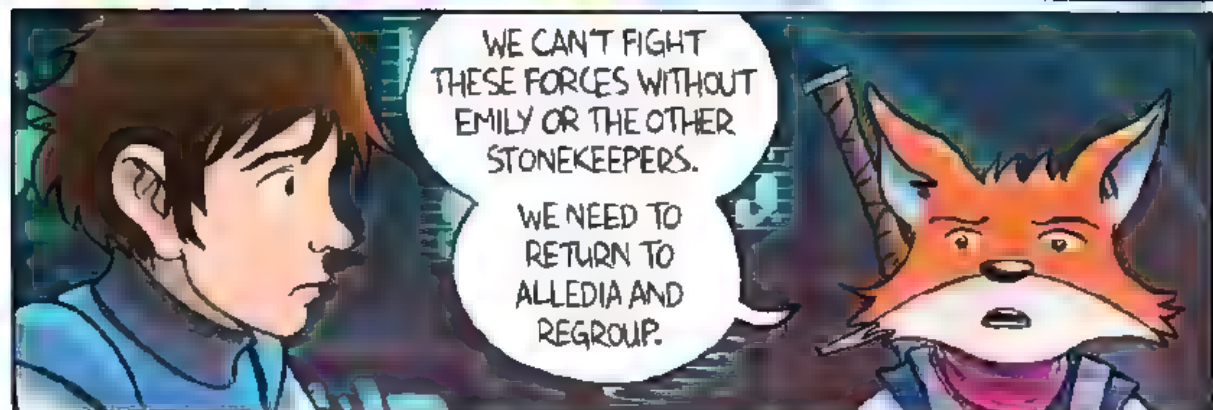
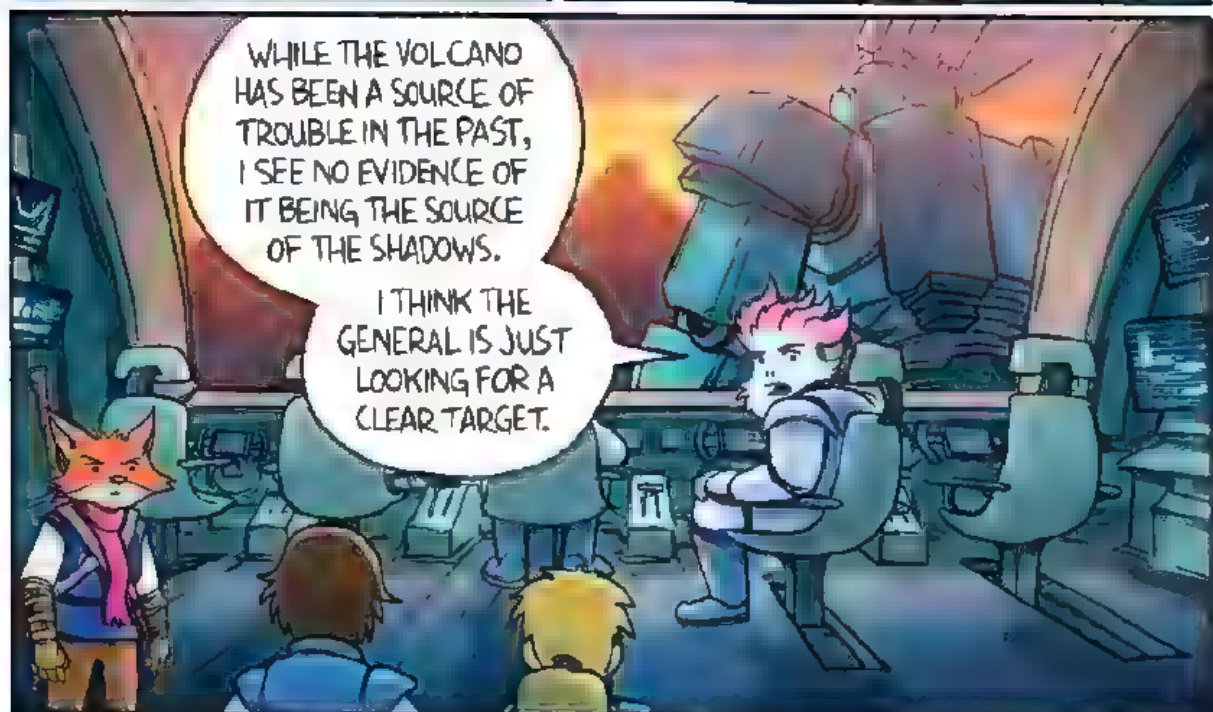
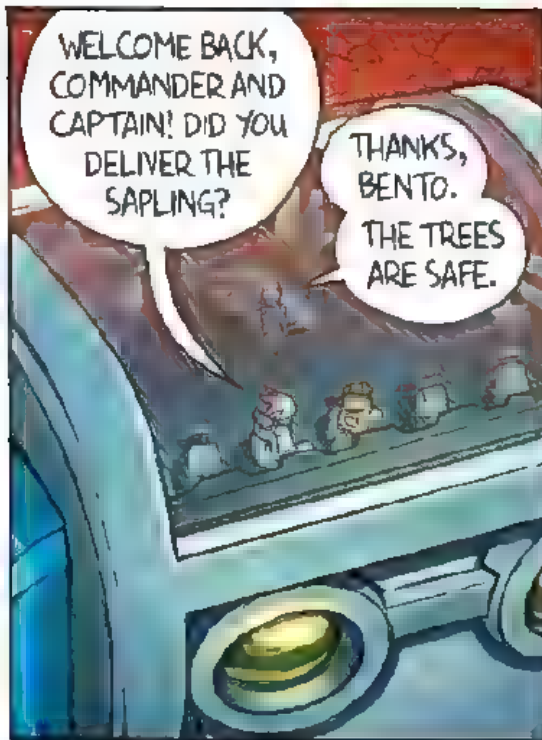
OPERATION  
LIGHTWAVE IS  
A GO!

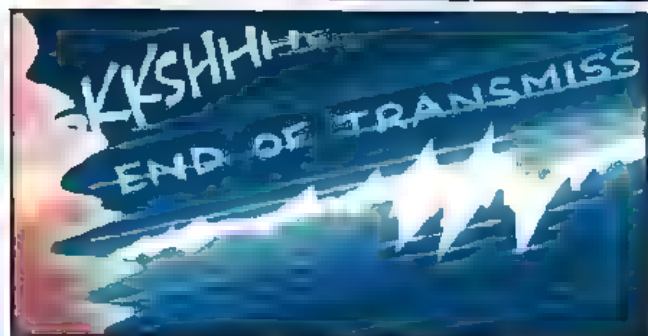
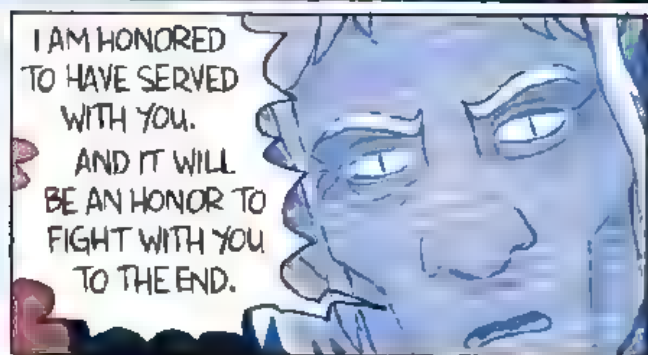
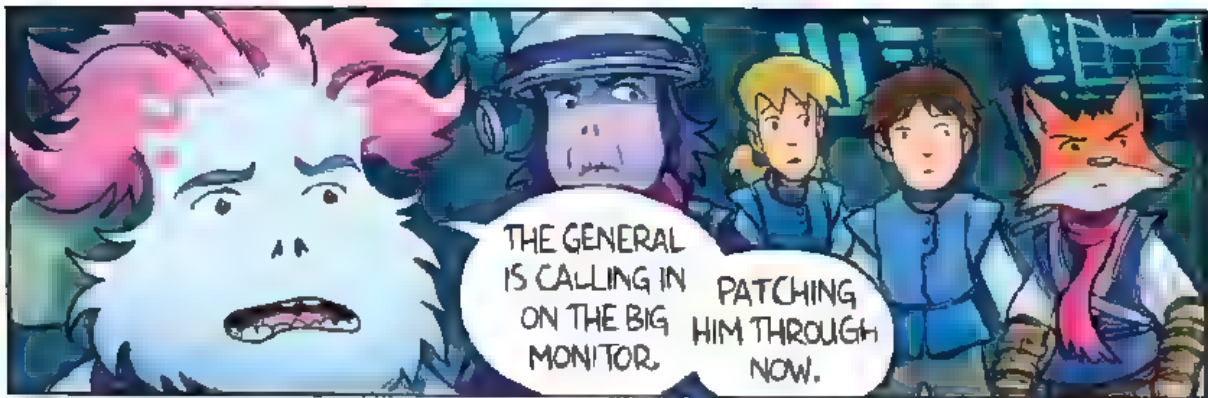
















TAKE THE  
CONTROLS,  
NAVIN.

STAY ON  
HIGH ALERT.



IF WHAT HE  
SAYS IS TRUE--

WHAT HAPPENED  
TO EMILY?! IS SHE  
ALIVE?!



I THINK  
EMILY IS OKAY,  
MOM.

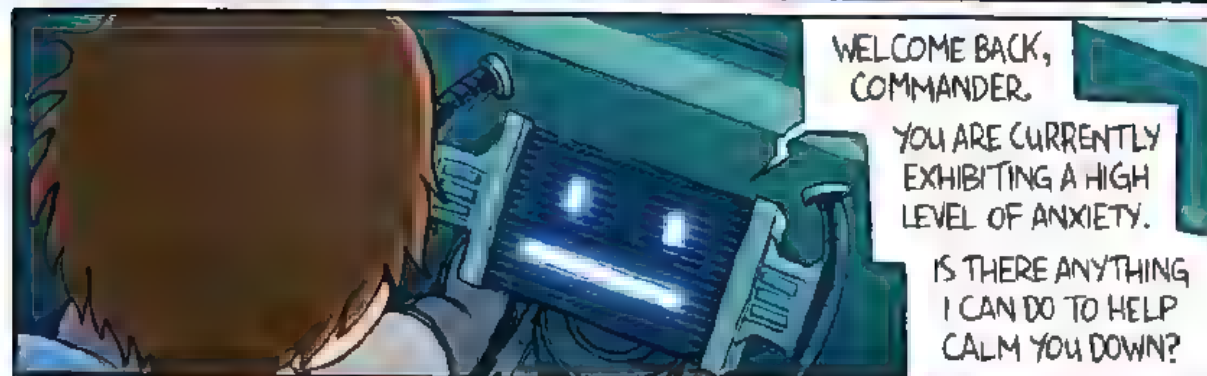
I'M NOT WORRIED  
ABOUT HER.

HOW CAN  
YOU KNOW?!



ESPECIALLY  
AFTER WHAT  
THAT MAN  
SAID?!

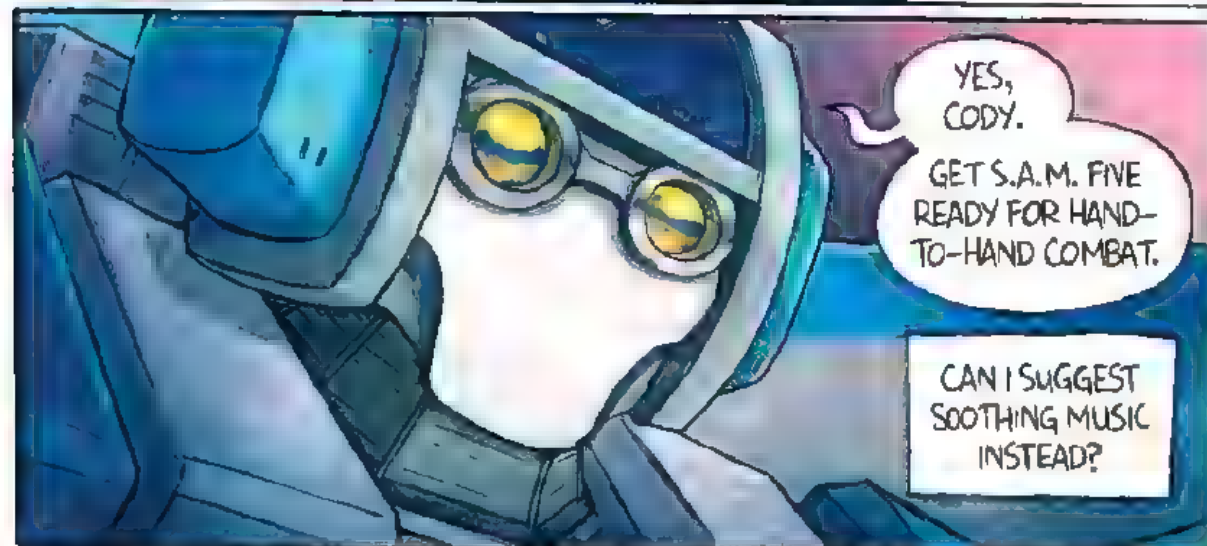
I JUST  
HAVE A STRONG  
FEELING.



WELCOME BACK,  
COMMANDER.

YOU ARE CURRENTLY  
EXHIBITING A HIGH  
LEVEL OF ANXIETY.

IS THERE ANYTHING  
I CAN DO TO HELP  
CALM YOU DOWN?



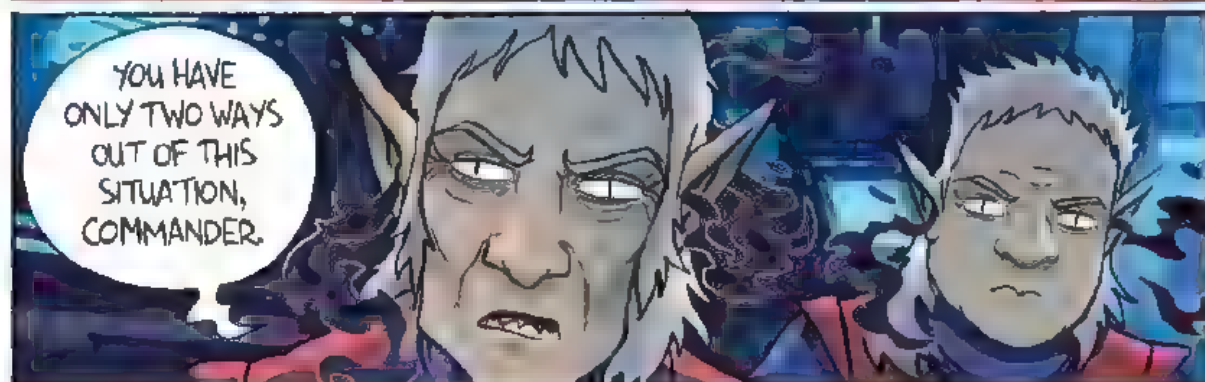
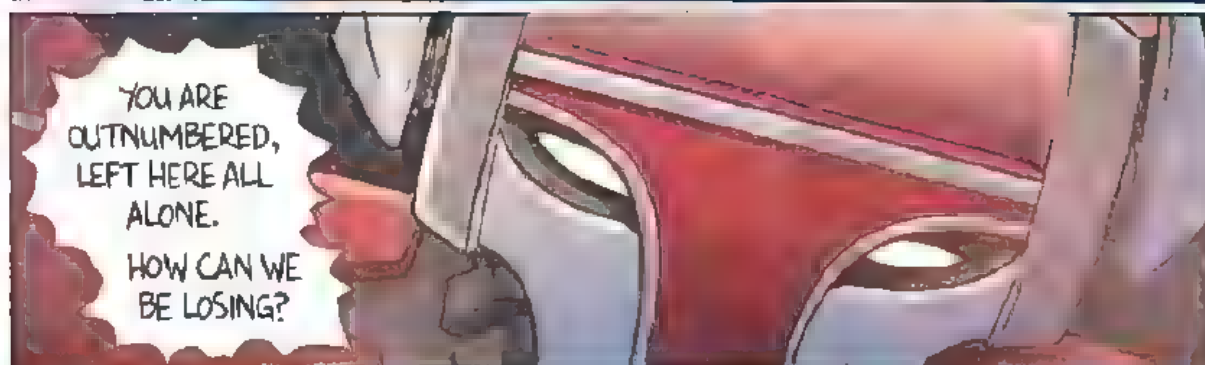
YES,  
CODY.

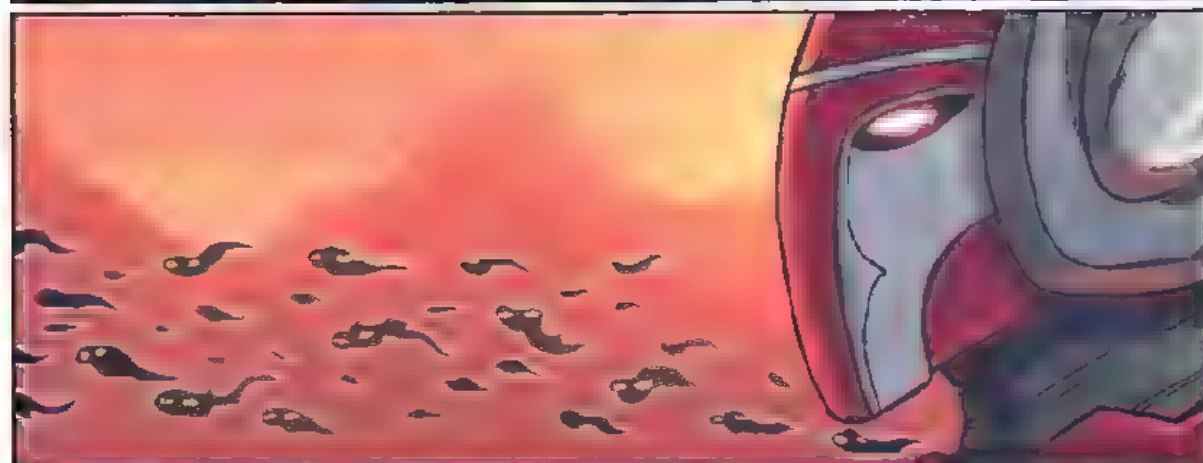
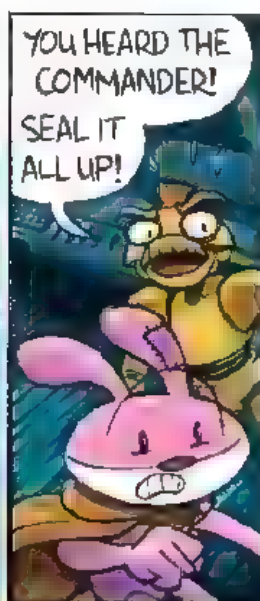
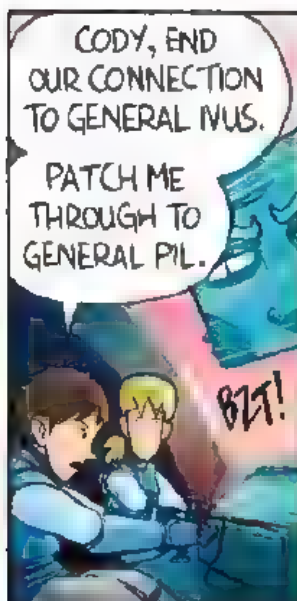
GET S.A.M. FIVE  
READY FOR HAND-  
TO-HAND COMBAT.

CAN I SUGGEST  
SOOTHING MUSIC  
INSTEAD?

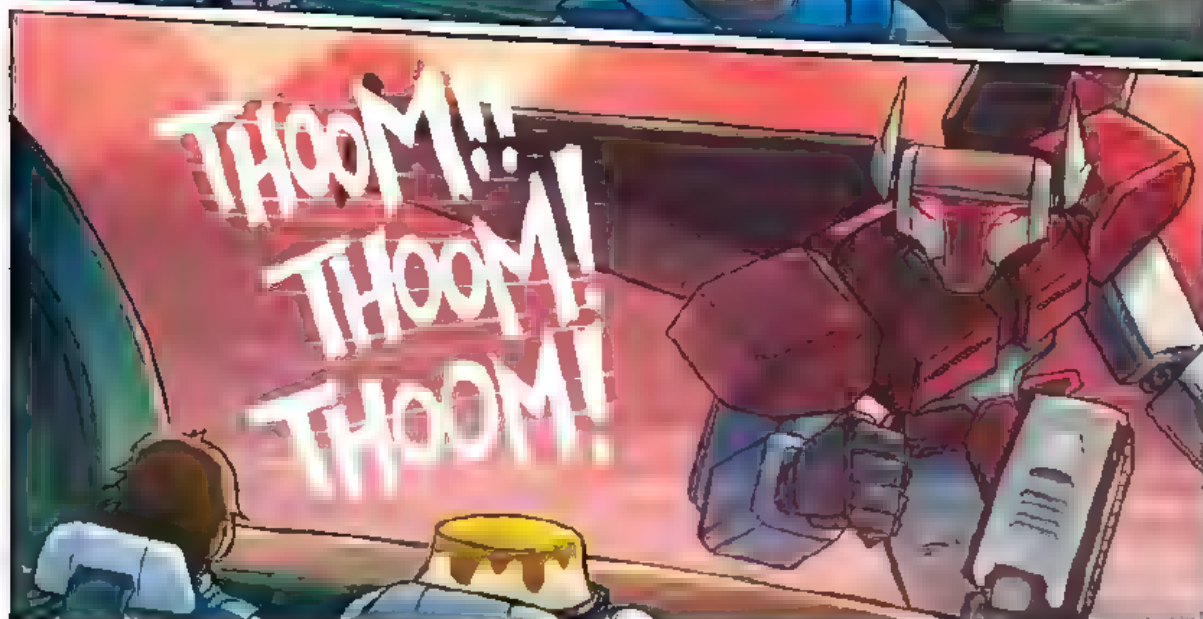
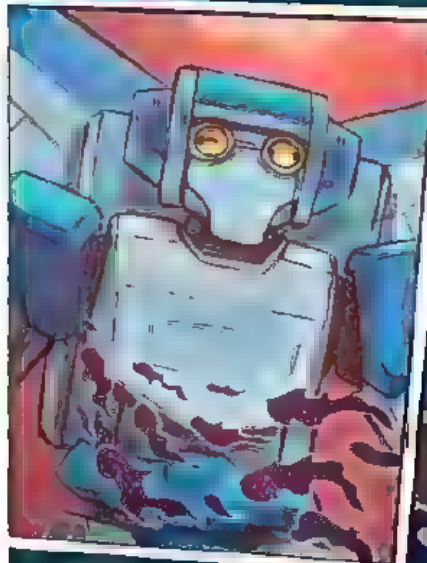
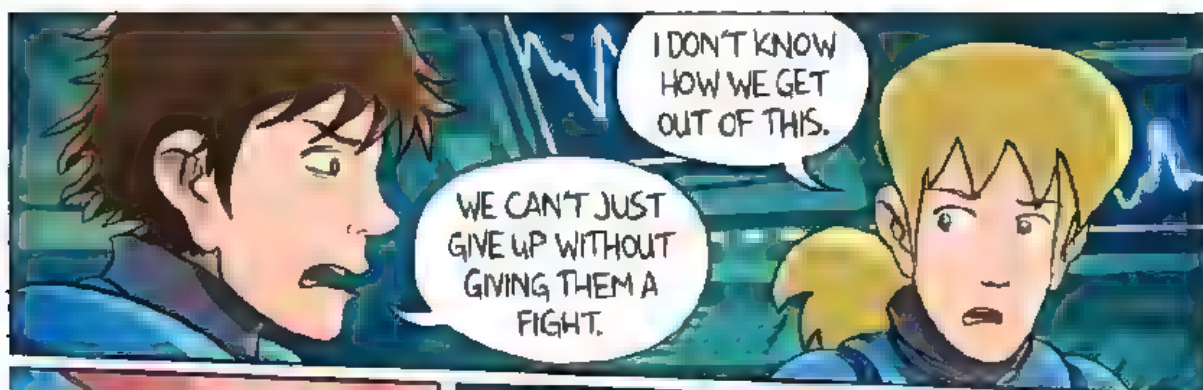


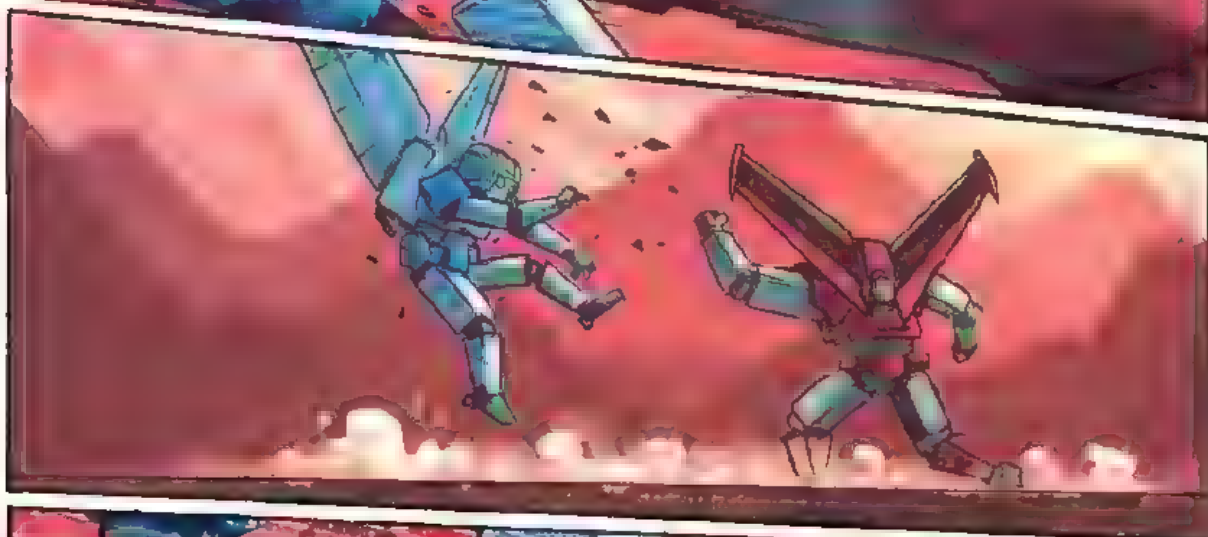
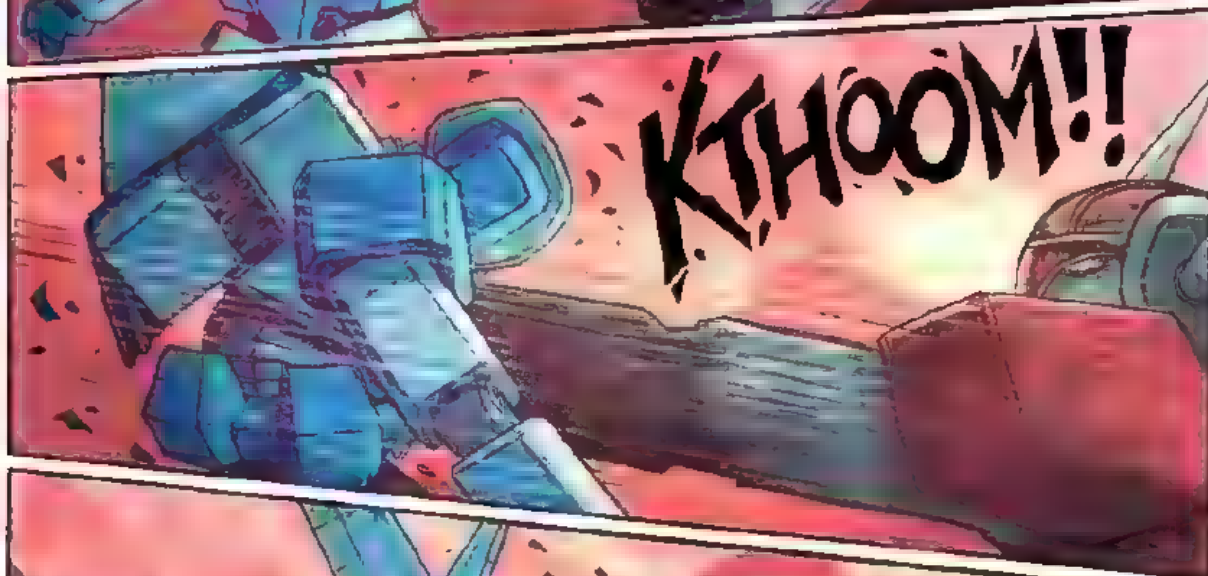
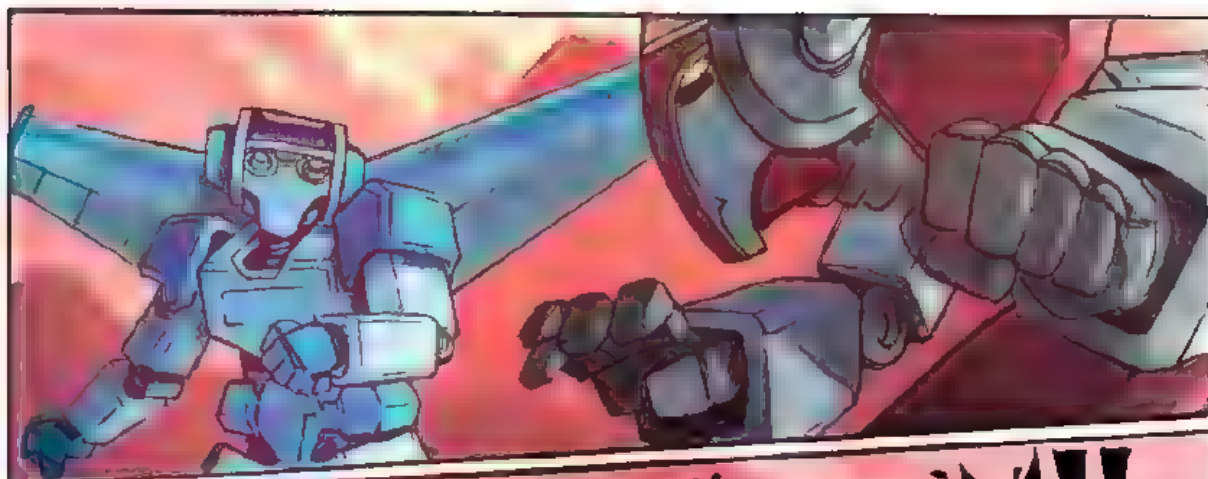






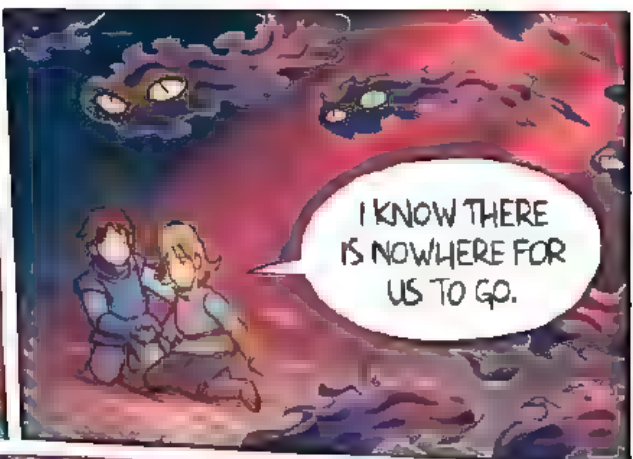
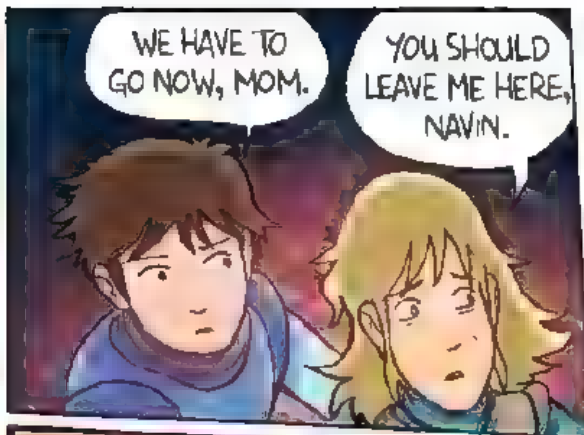




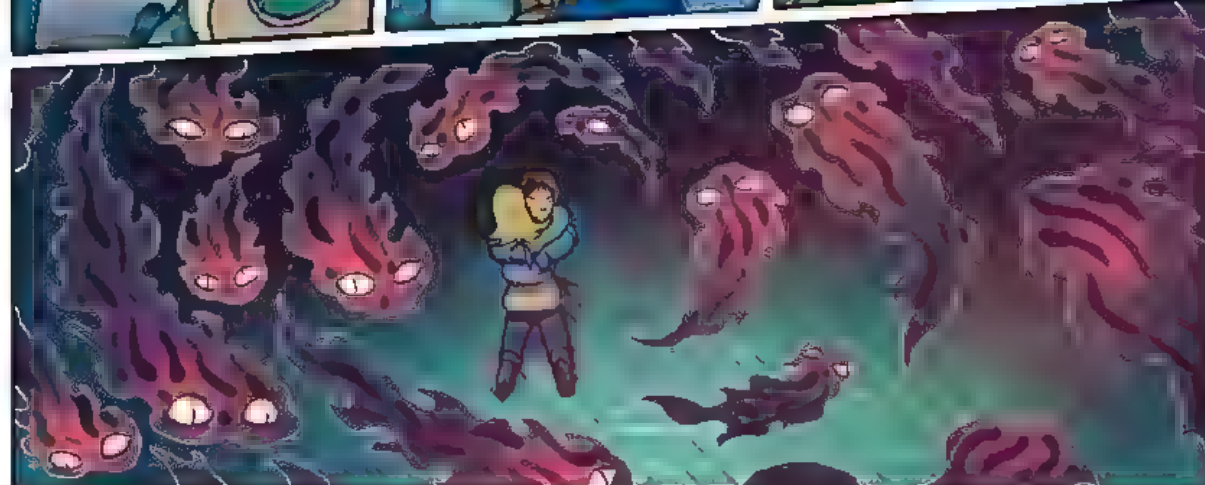
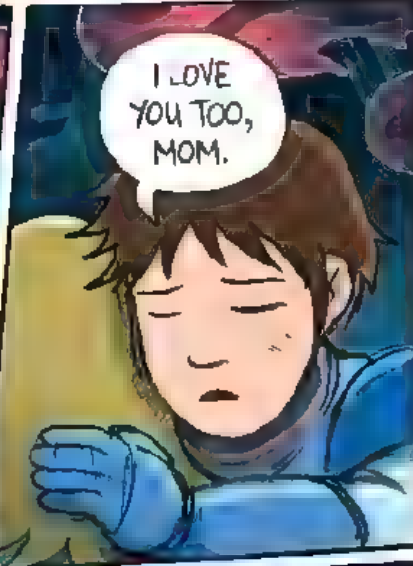
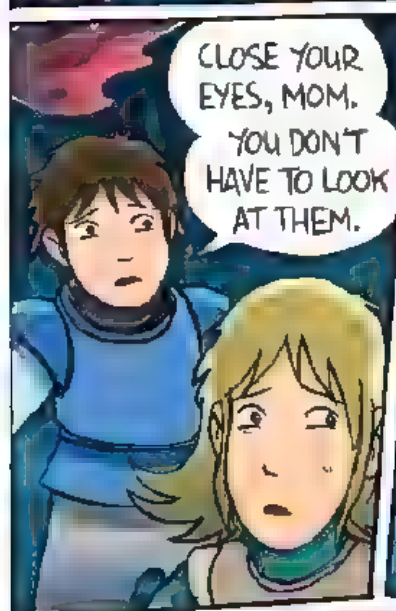






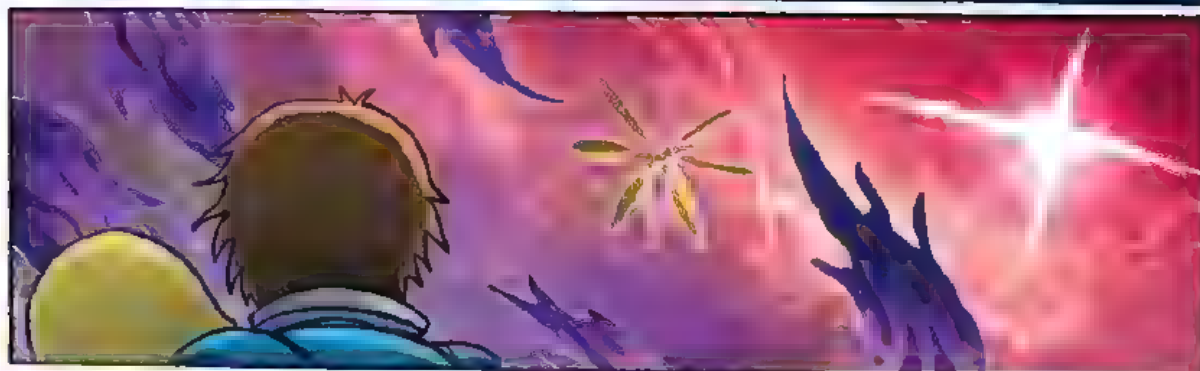
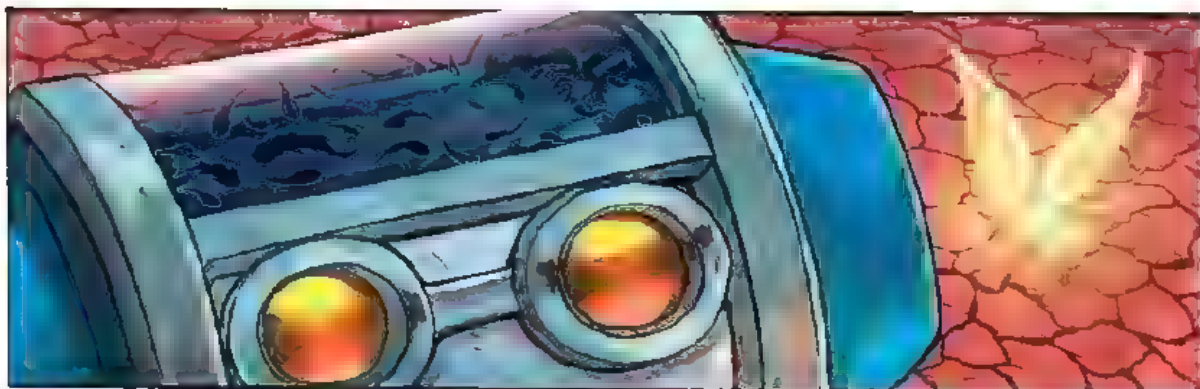






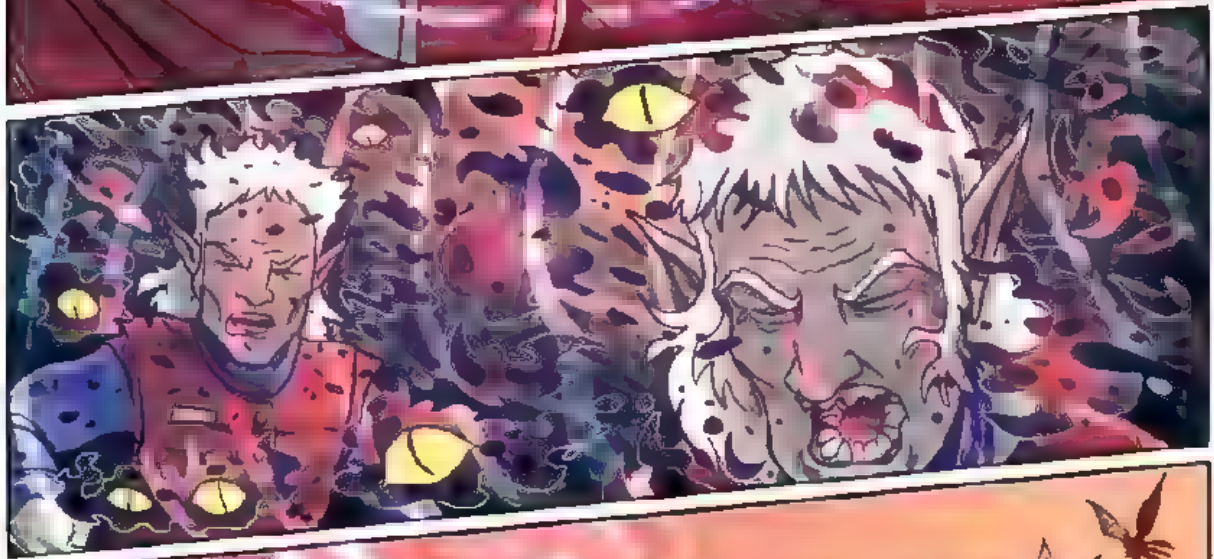


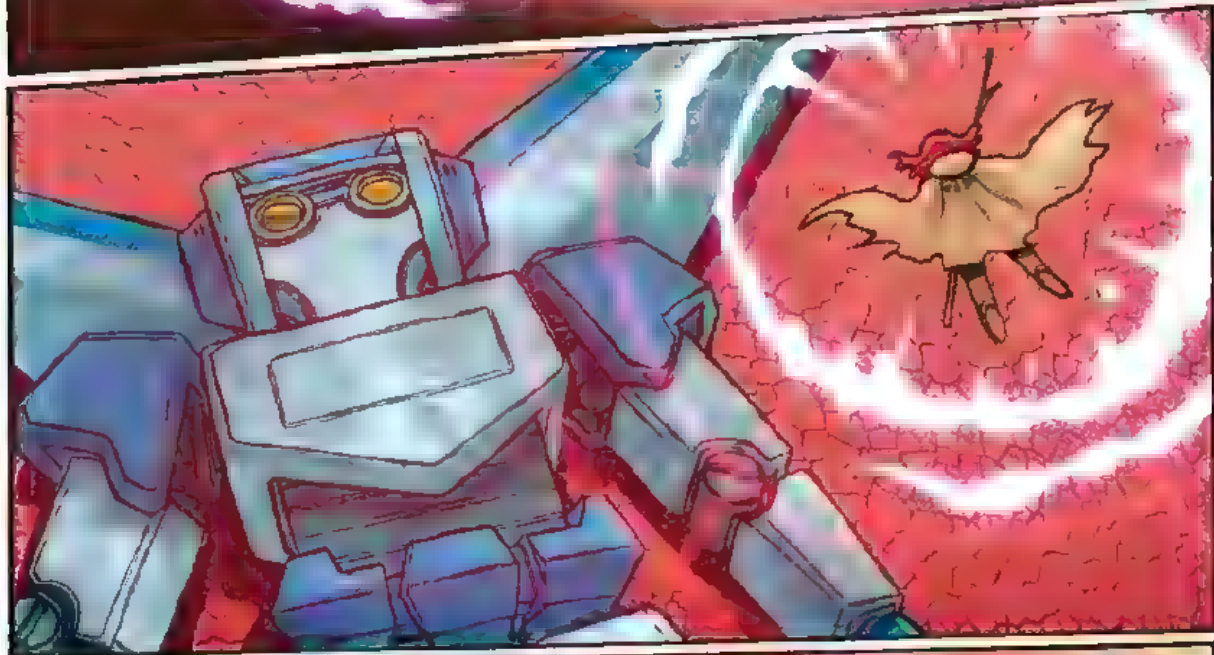
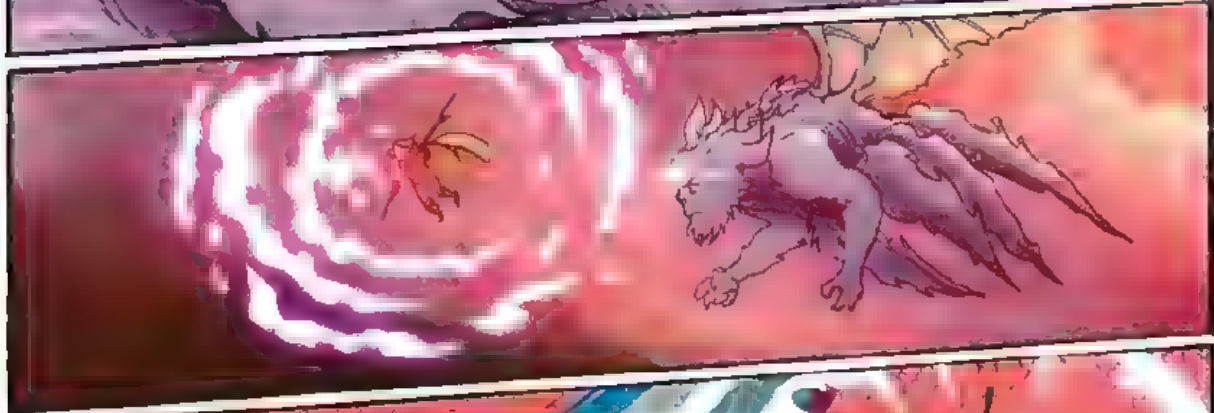
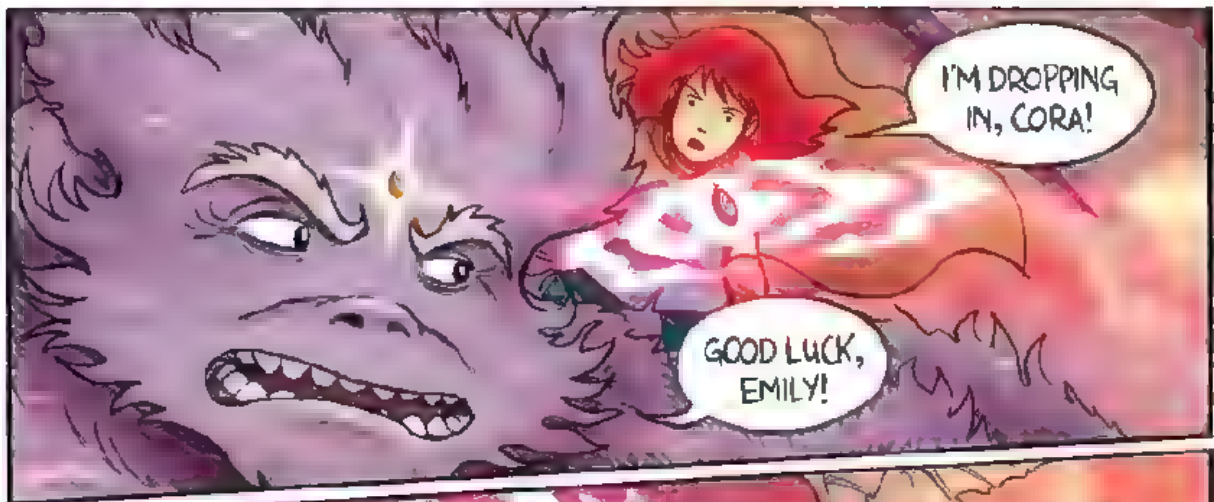




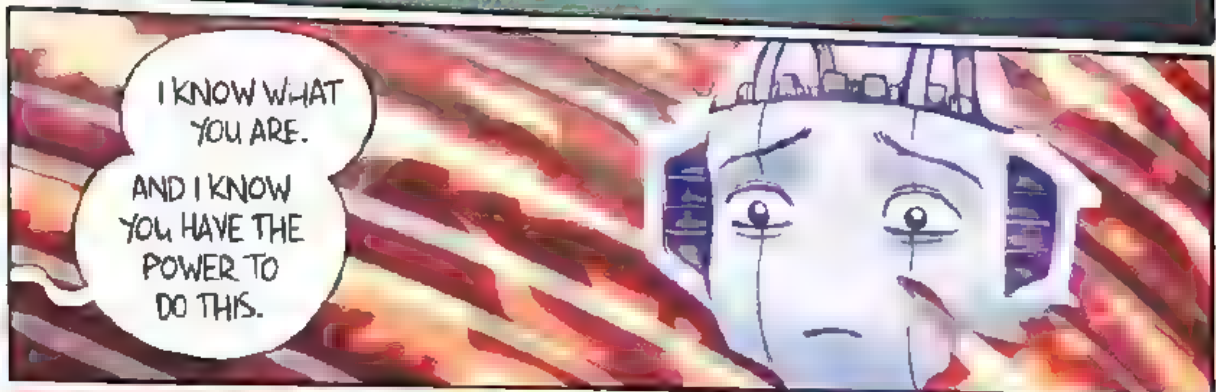
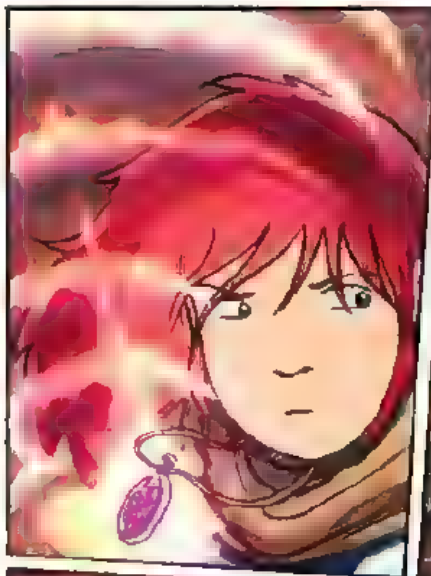


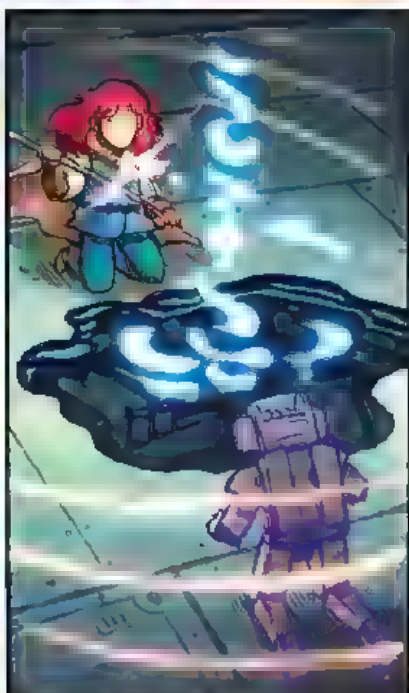
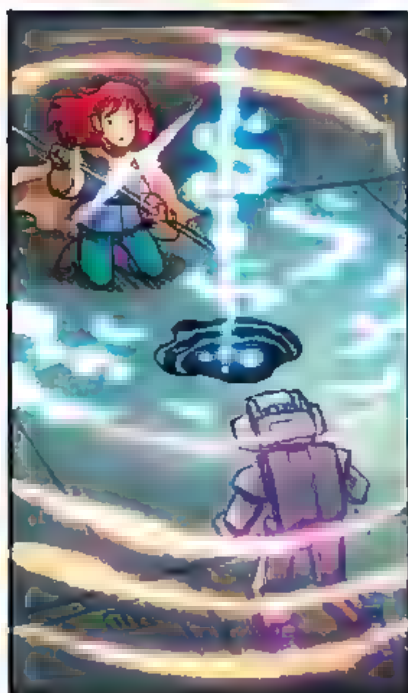
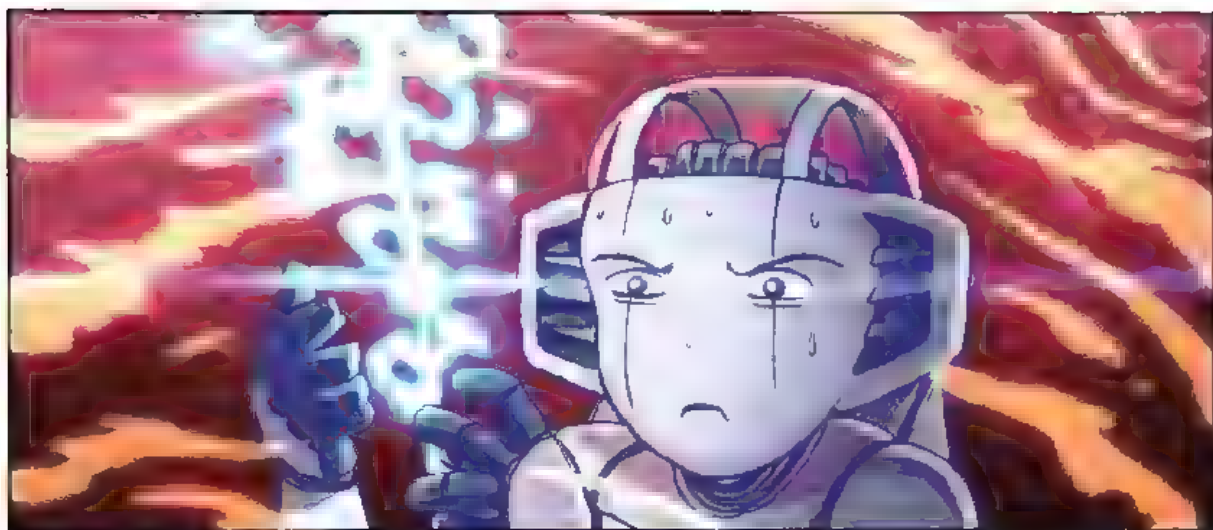






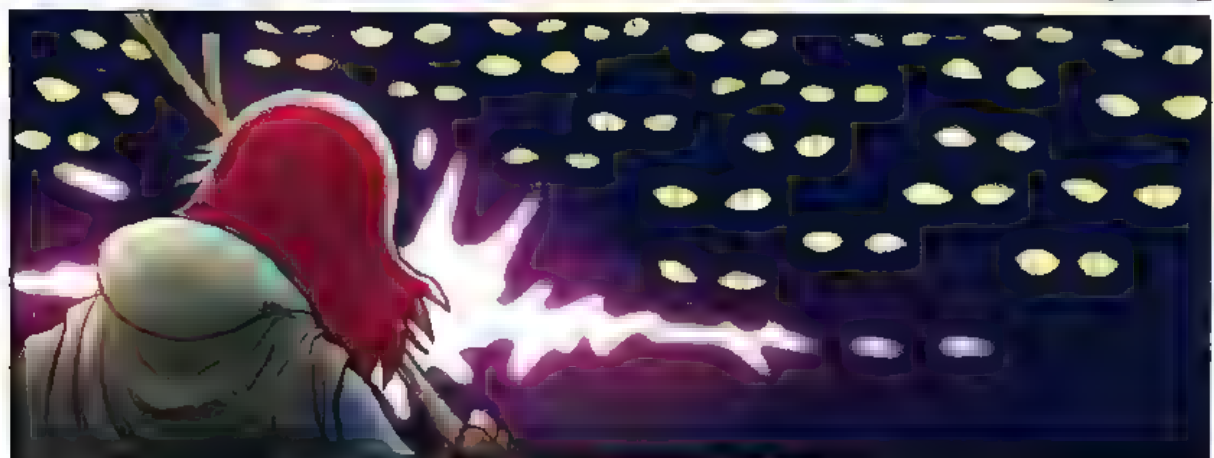
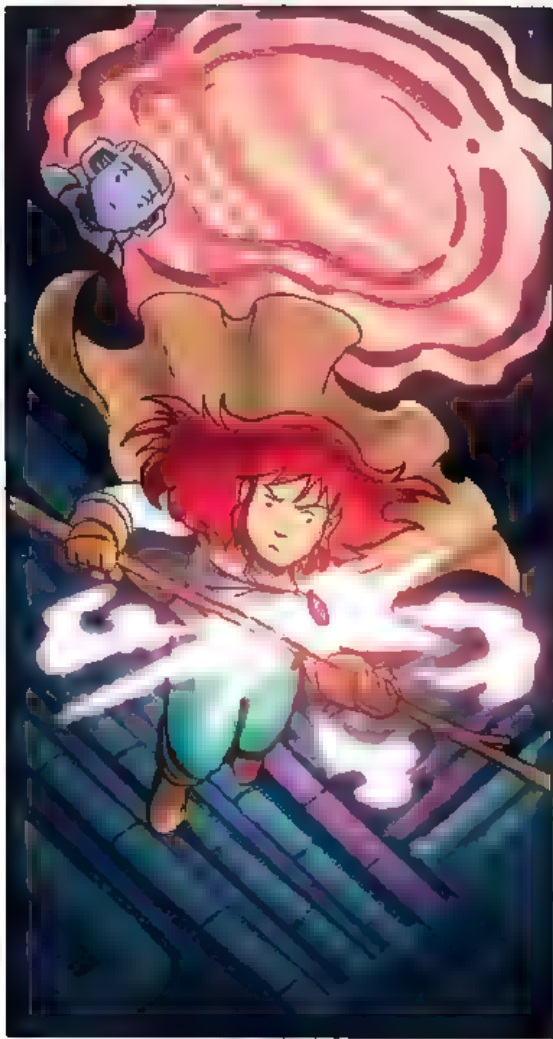


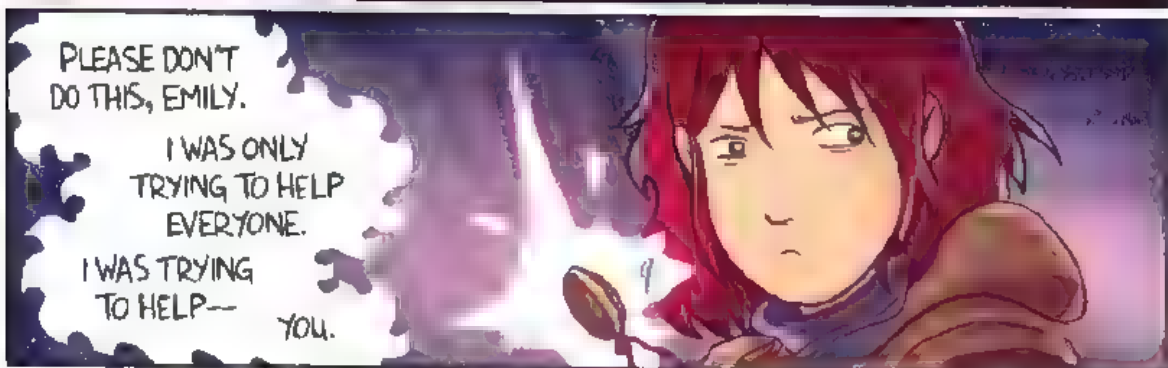
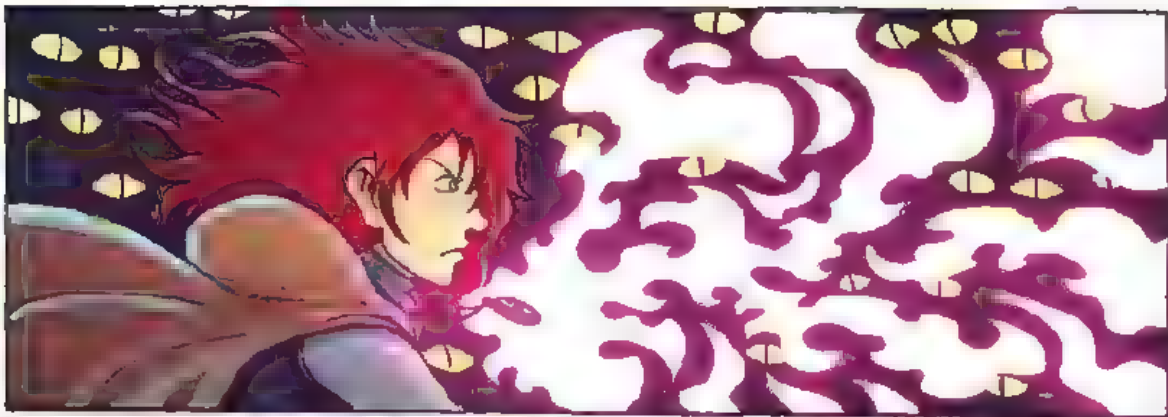




THANK  
YOU.



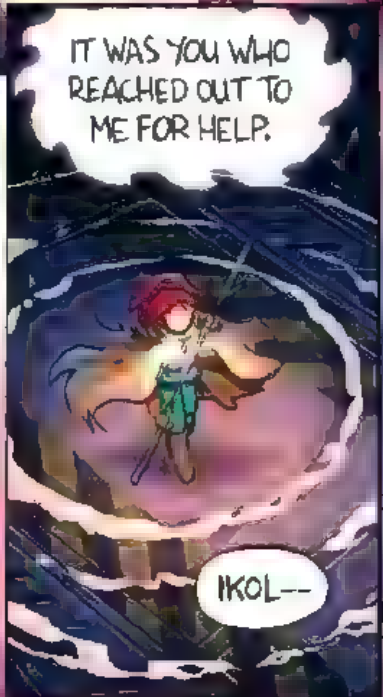








REMEMBER,  
EMILY--



IT WAS YOU WHO  
REACHED OUT TO  
ME FOR HELP.



THIS IS  
WHAT YOU CALL  
HELP?

IKOL--


YOU POSSESSED  
MY FAMILY --

CAUSED NEEDLESS  
DEATHS --

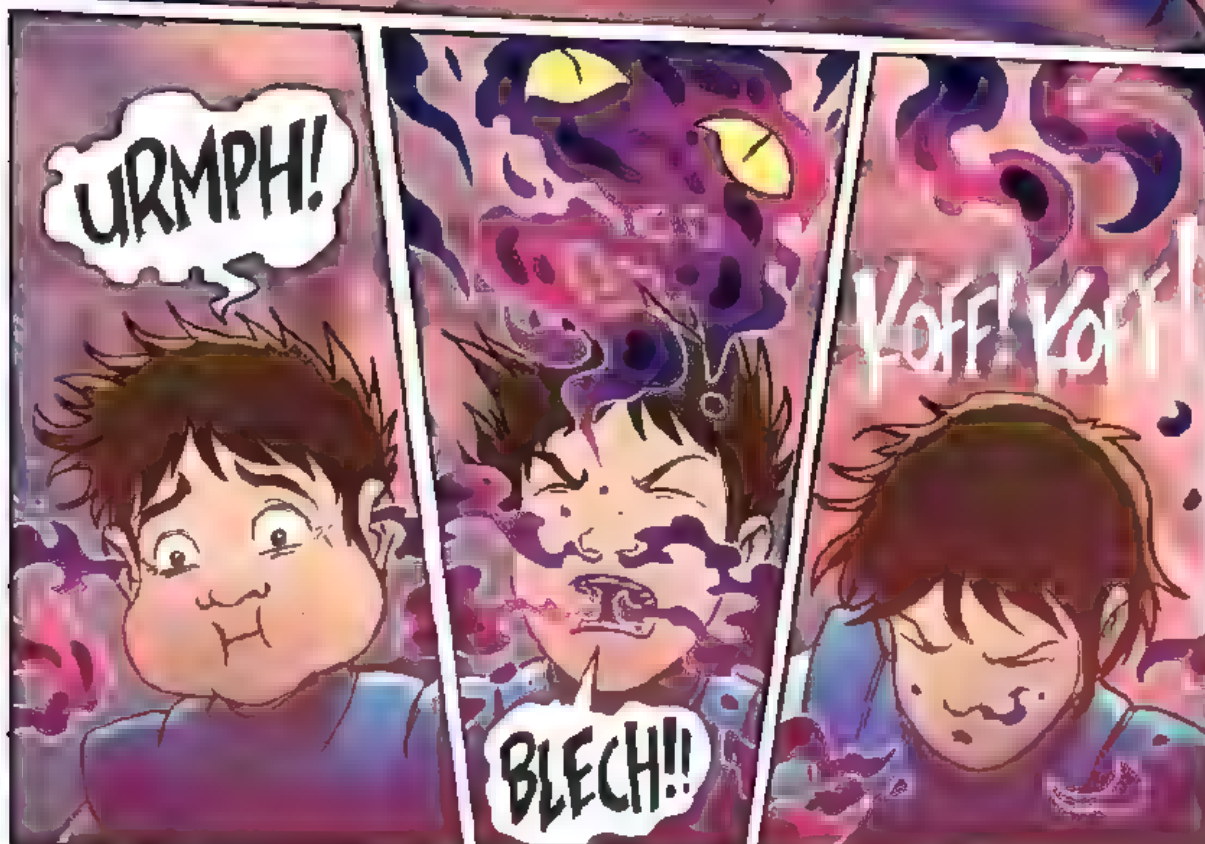
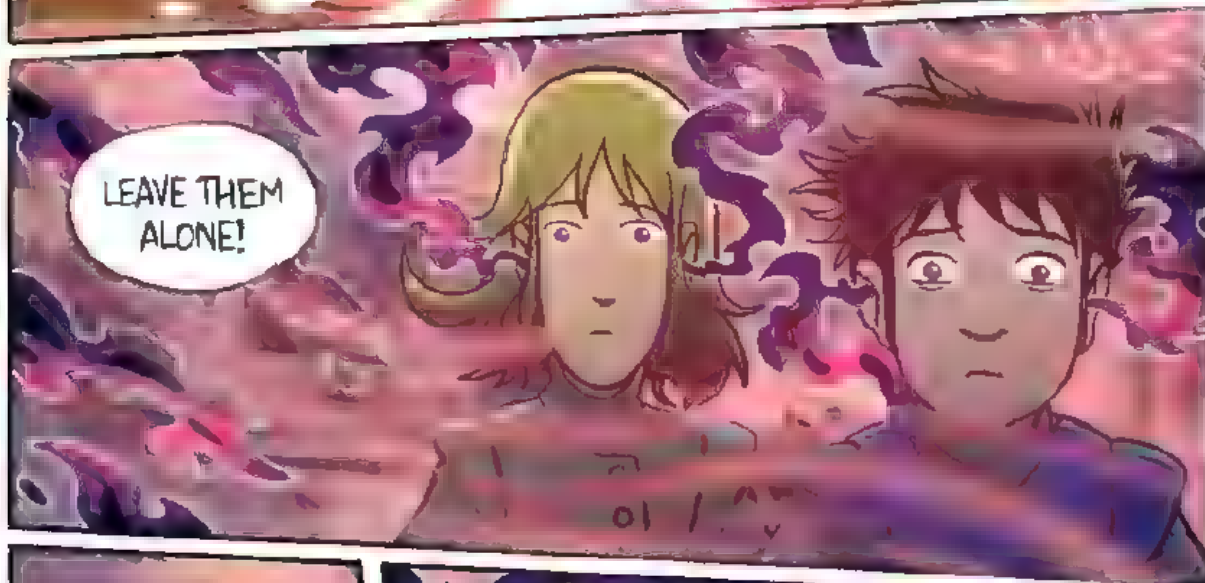
DISMANTLED  
CIVILIZATIONS --

MANIPULATED  
OTHERS FOR YOUR  
OWN BENEFIT--

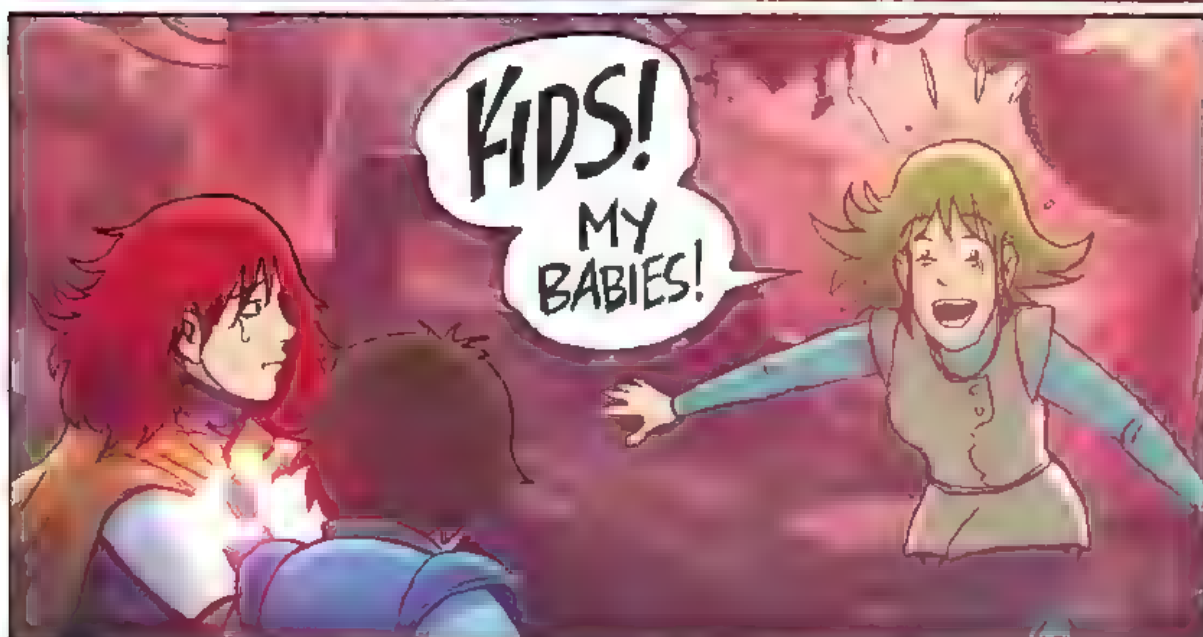
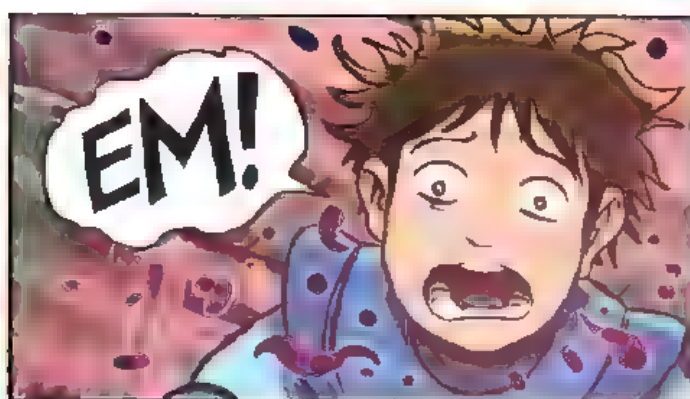
TREATED PEOPLE  
LIKE LAB RATS FOR  
YOUR EXPERIMENTS --

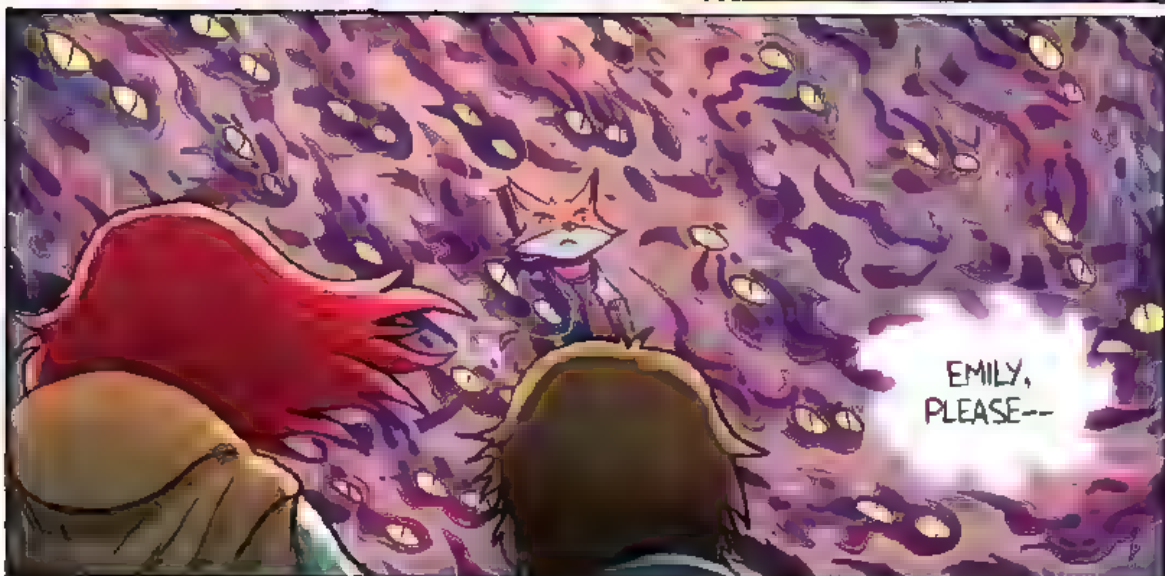
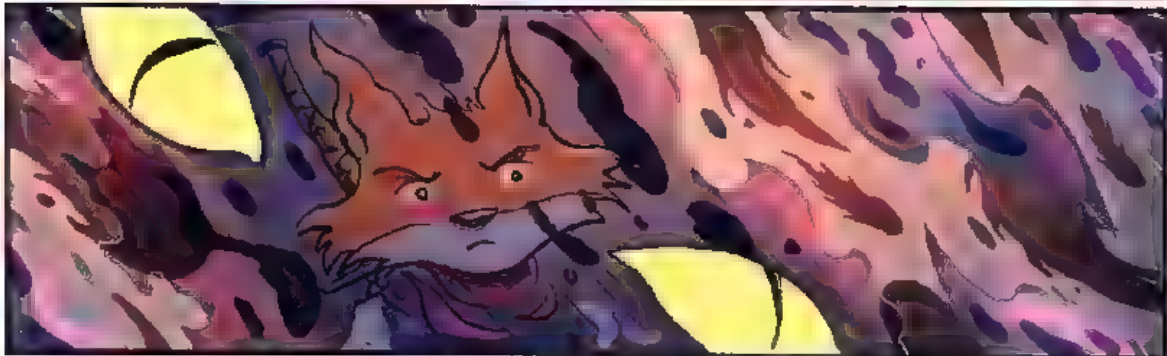
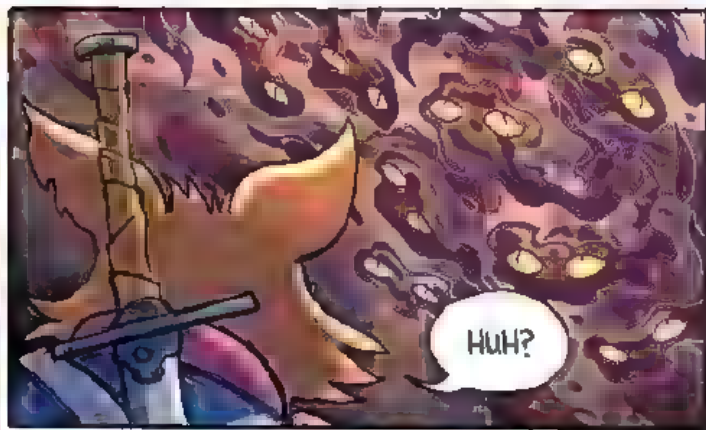
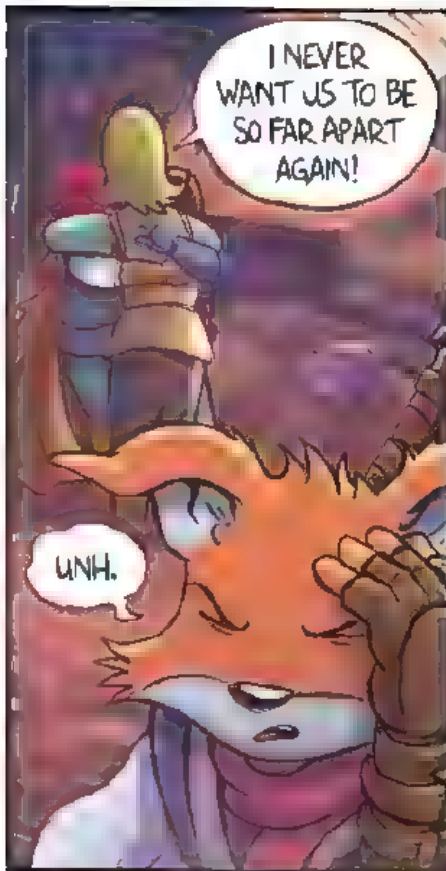


NO. YOU ARE  
NOT HELPFUL,  
IKOL.





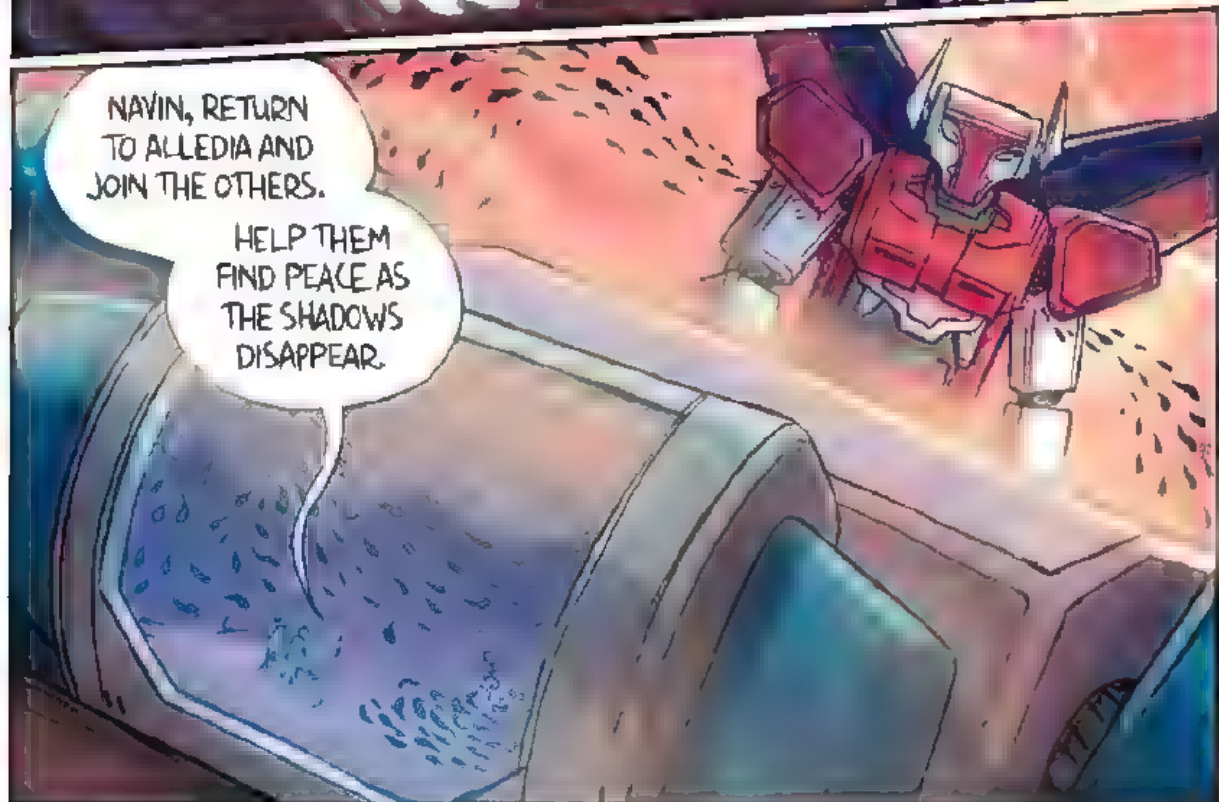
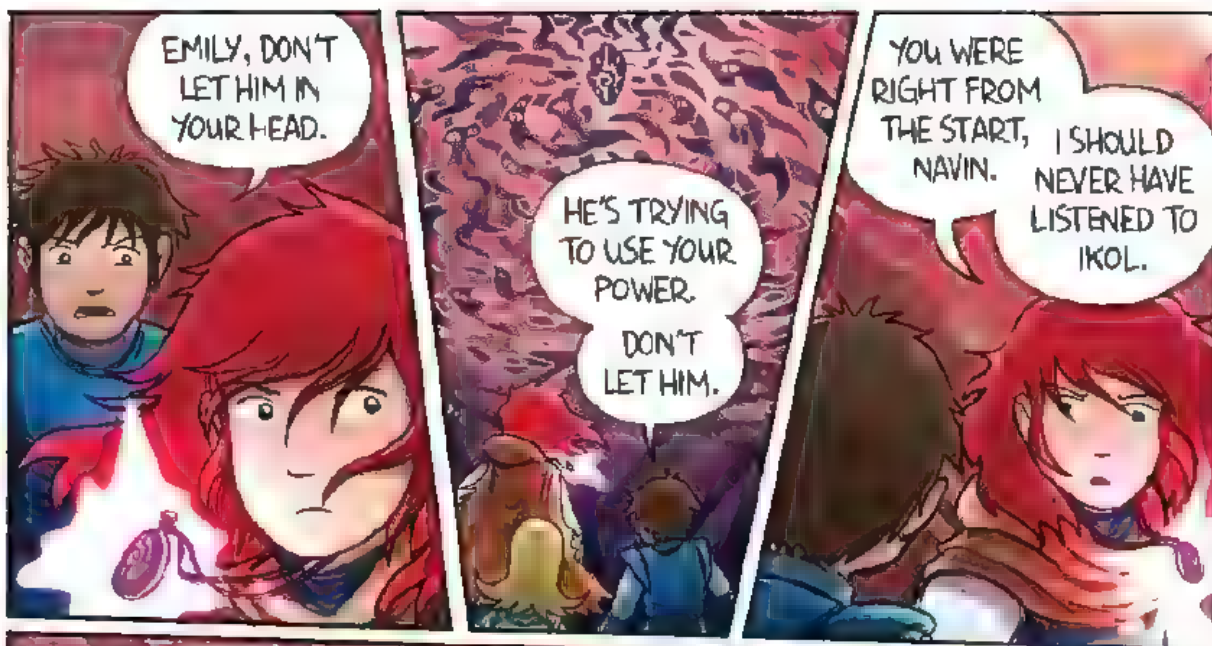




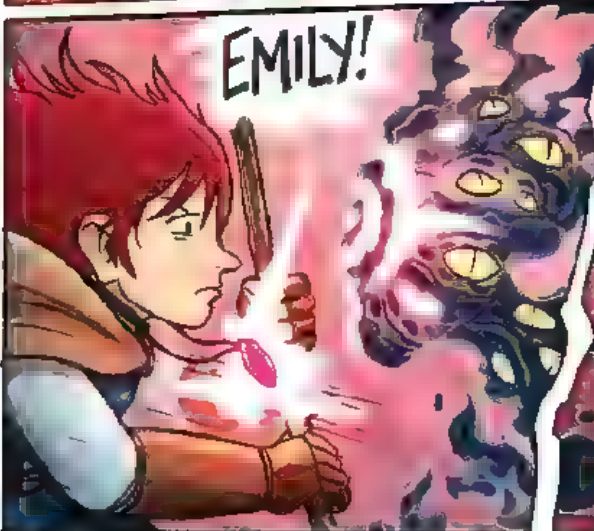
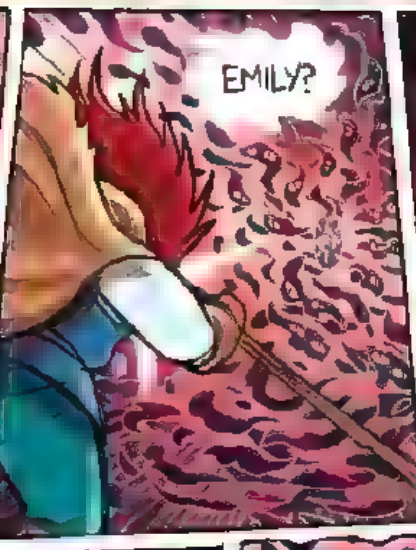
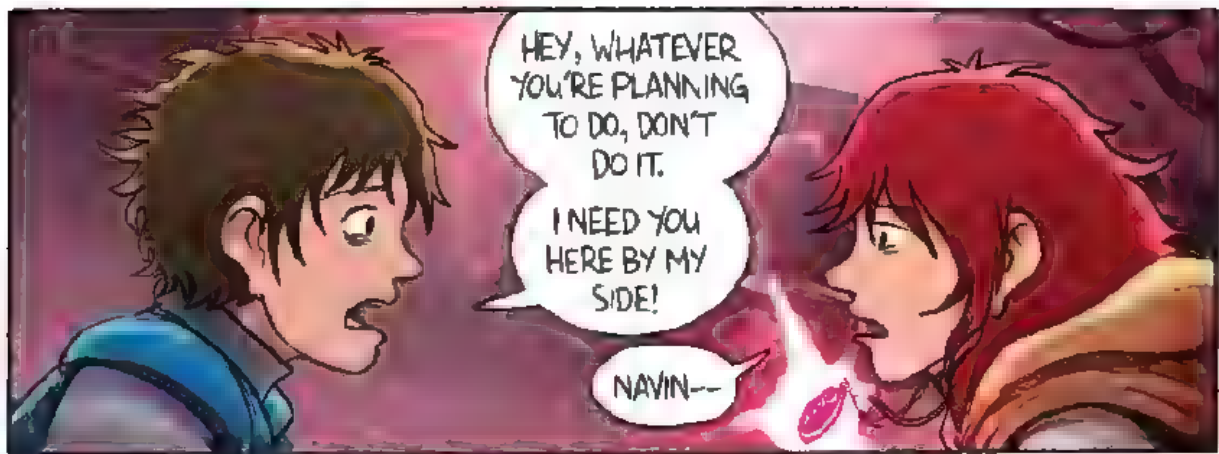




DO NOT  
FORGET  
ABOUT ME.









EMILY,  
JOIN US.





JOIN US  
DOWN HERE  
WHERE IT IS  
SAFE.

HIDE AWAY  
WITH US.  
DOWN HERE  
WE CANNOT  
BE HARMED.  
PLEASE--



STAY  
WITH US.




GRAB!



SAFE.

IT IS BETTER  
DOWN HERE.

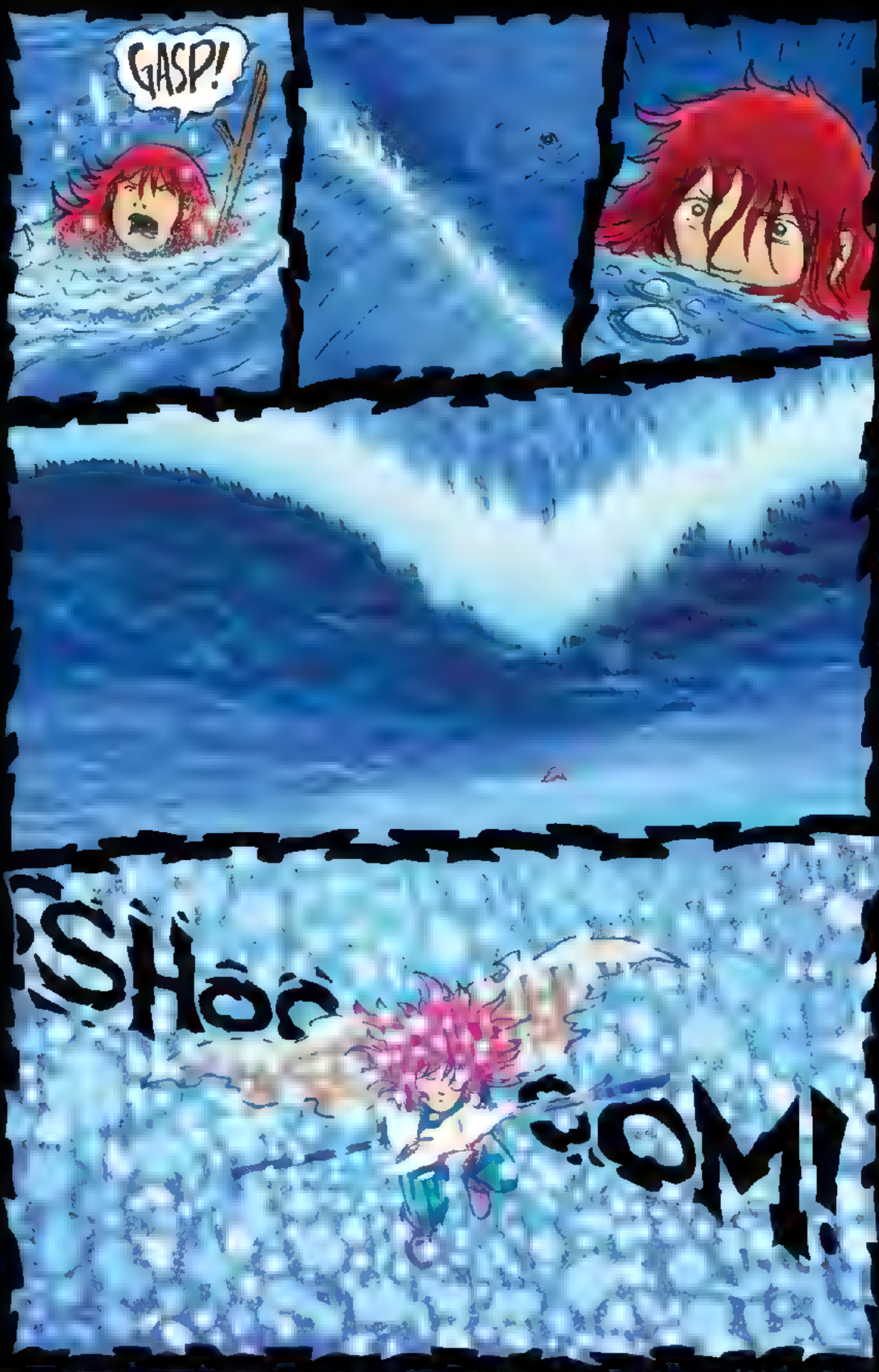
GIVE IN.



STAY  
WITH US.









REMAIN  
CALM.



FIND YOUR  
WAY TO THE  
SURFACE.



THE LIGHT  
IS BELOW.

THAT MEANS  
DOWN IS UP.

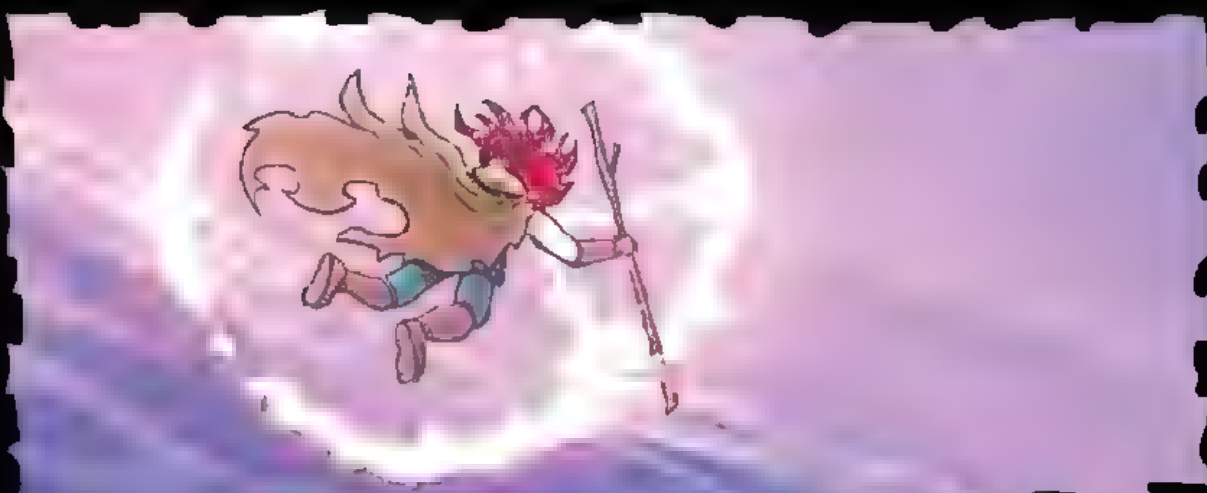


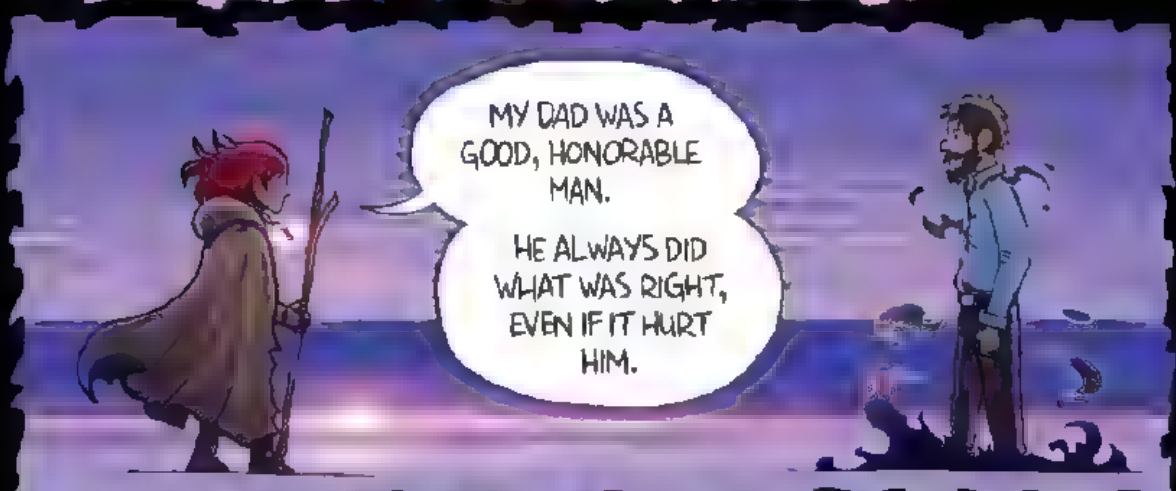
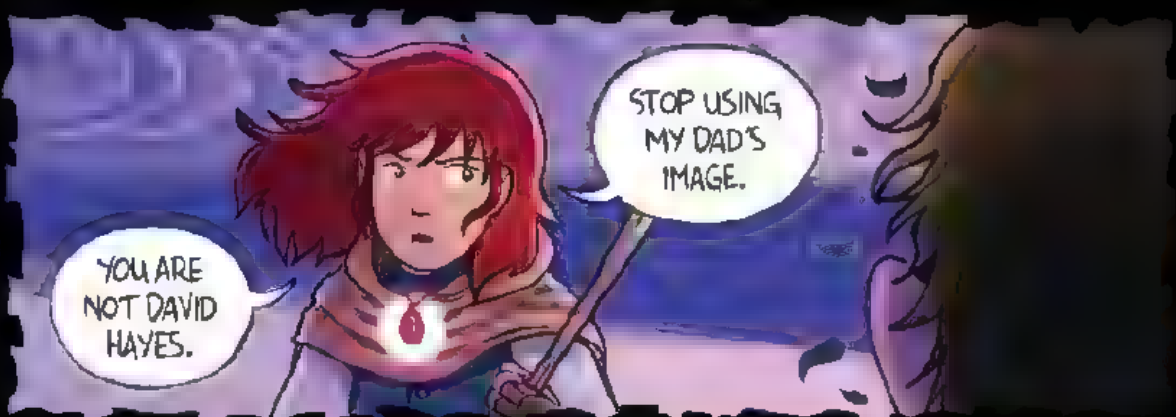
FOOSH!!




SHOOM!













IT IS THE  
UNIVERSE THAT  
IS MONSTROUS.



AND I SUPPOSE  
YOU BELIEVE YOU  
CAN FIX IT.



YES.



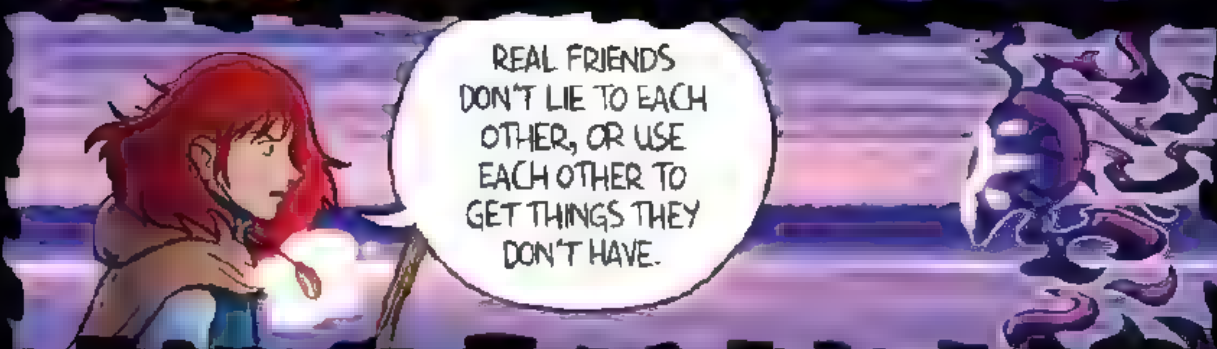
YOU ARE AN  
ANCIENT, SPOILED  
BRAT.



EMILY,  
ARE WE  
FRIENDS?



ARE WE  
FRIENDS?



REAL FRIENDS  
DON'T LIE TO EACH  
OTHER, OR USE  
EACH OTHER TO  
GET THINGS THEY  
DON'T HAVE.



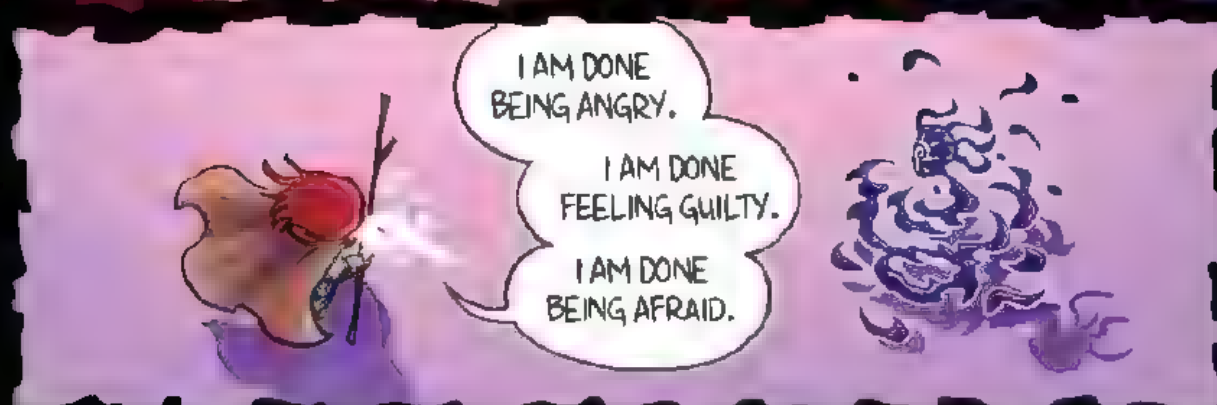
I SEE.

EVERYTHING  
I DID FOR YOU  
I DID FOR  
NOTHING?



I KNOW WHAT  
YOU'RE TRYING TO  
DO, IKOL.

BUT I WON'T  
FALL FOR IT  
ANYMORE.




I AM DONE  
BEING ANGRY.

I AM DONE  
FEELING GUILTY.

I AM DONE  
BEING AFRAID.






I HAVE DECIDED  
INSTEAD THAT I  
MUST FORGIVE  
YOU.

IKOL,  
I FORGIVE  
YOU.

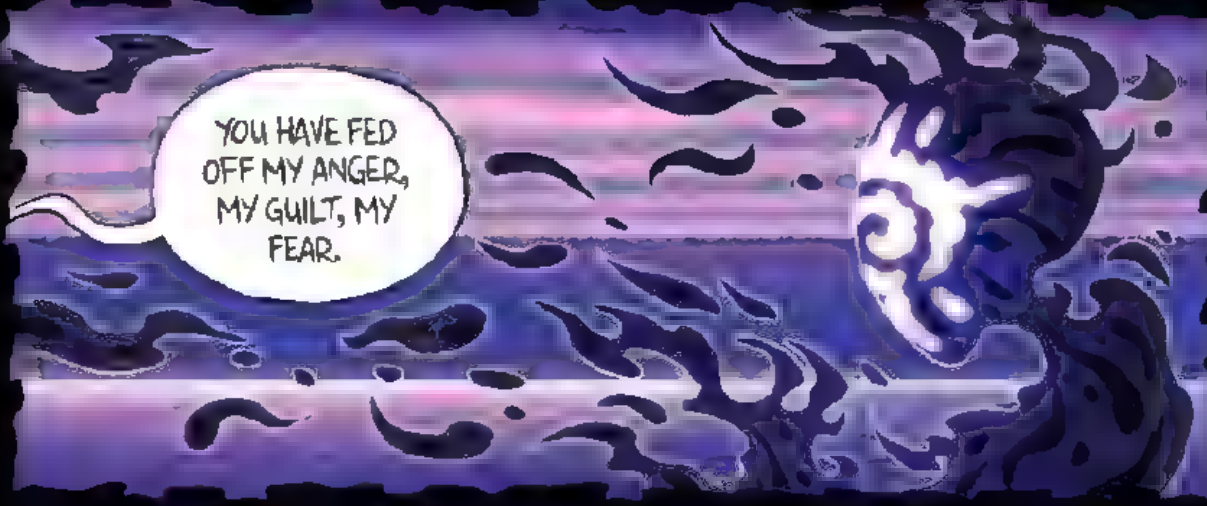


FORGIVE  
ME?


BUT  
WHY?



BECAUSE I  
NEED TO FORGIVE  
MYSELF.




YOU HAVE FED  
OFF MY ANGER,  
MY GUILT, MY  
FEAR.



YOU ARE THE  
RESULT OF ALL  
THESE THINGS.

AND I AM  
GOING TO TAKE  
THEM BACK NOW.



THE TIME FOR  
GAMES IS OVER,  
IKOL.

IT IS TIME  
FOR YOU TO  
SLEEP.

BUT I WANT TO  
KEEP PLAYING,  
EMILY.

I DO NOT  
WANT TO  
SLEEP.





YOU'VE DONE  
ENOUGH.

BUT YOU SAY  
I'VE CREATED  
A MESS.

I WANT TO  
HELP YOU  
CLEAN IT UP.

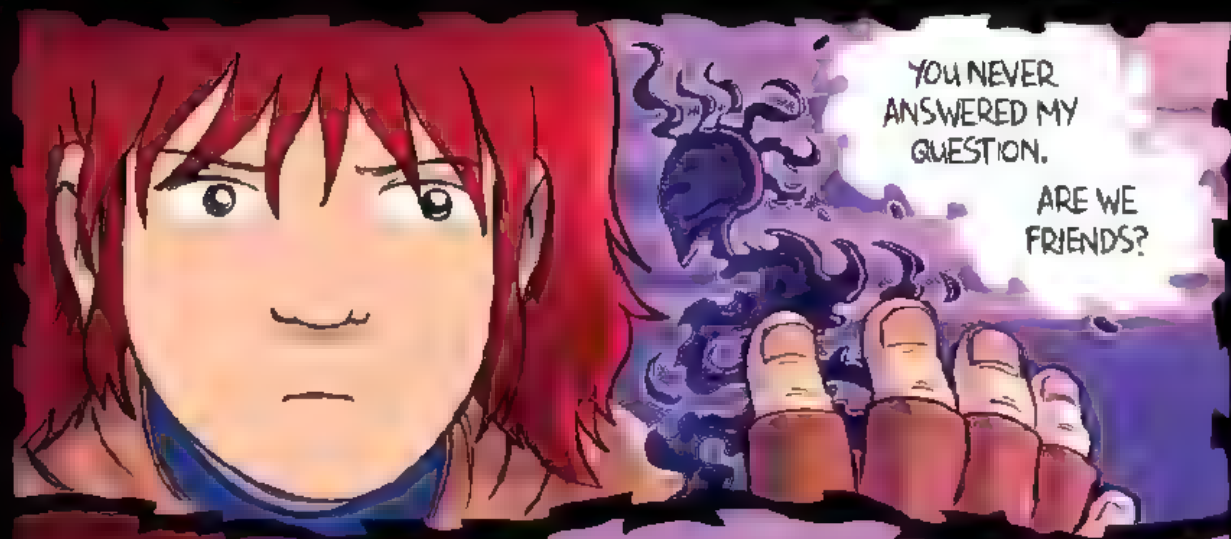
I WANT  
TO BE  
NEEDED.

THE BEST  
WAY TO HELP  
IS FOR YOU TO  
GO AWAY  
NOW.

BUT I CAN  
DO SO MUCH.

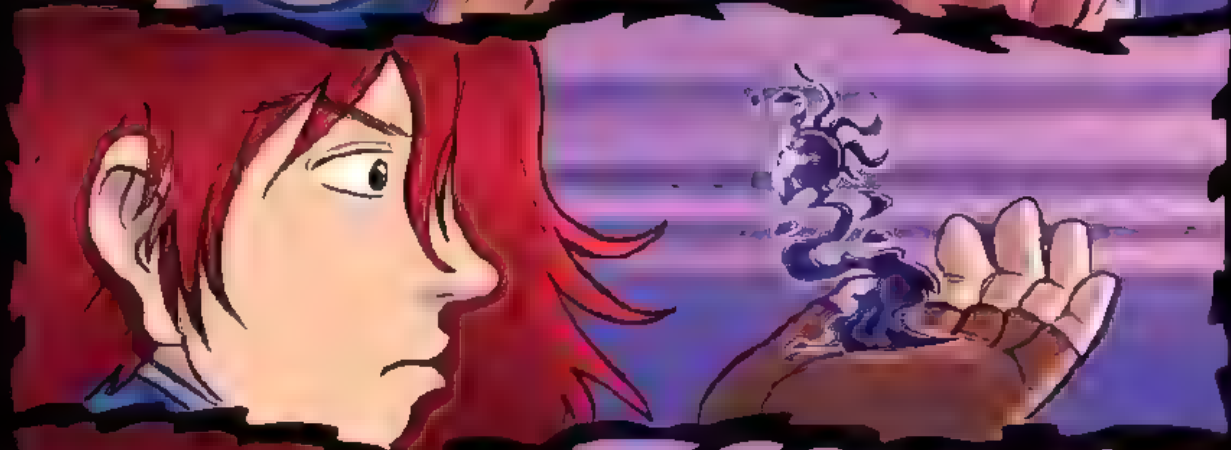
I KNOW YOU  
CAN, BUT IT IS  
TIME FOR YOU  
TO SLEEP.

BUT, EMILY,  
I DON'T WANT  
TO SLEEP.

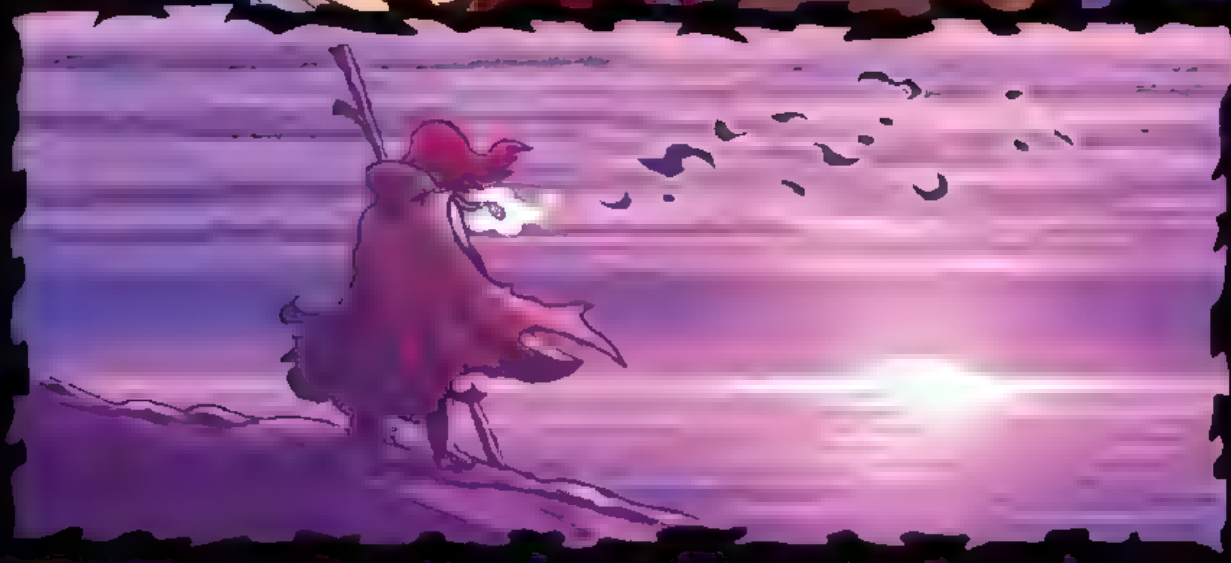


YOU NEVER  
ANSWERED MY  
QUESTION.

ARE WE  
FRIENDS?

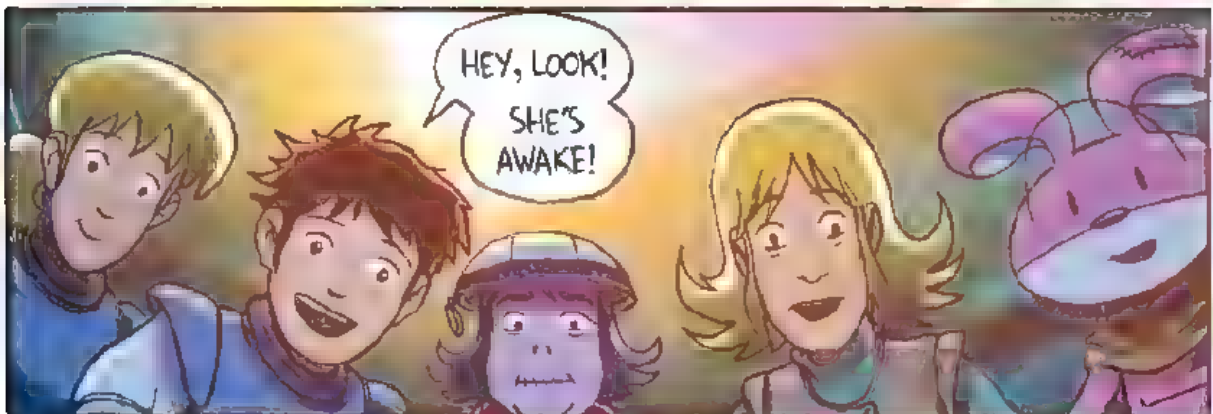


PHUUUUU-

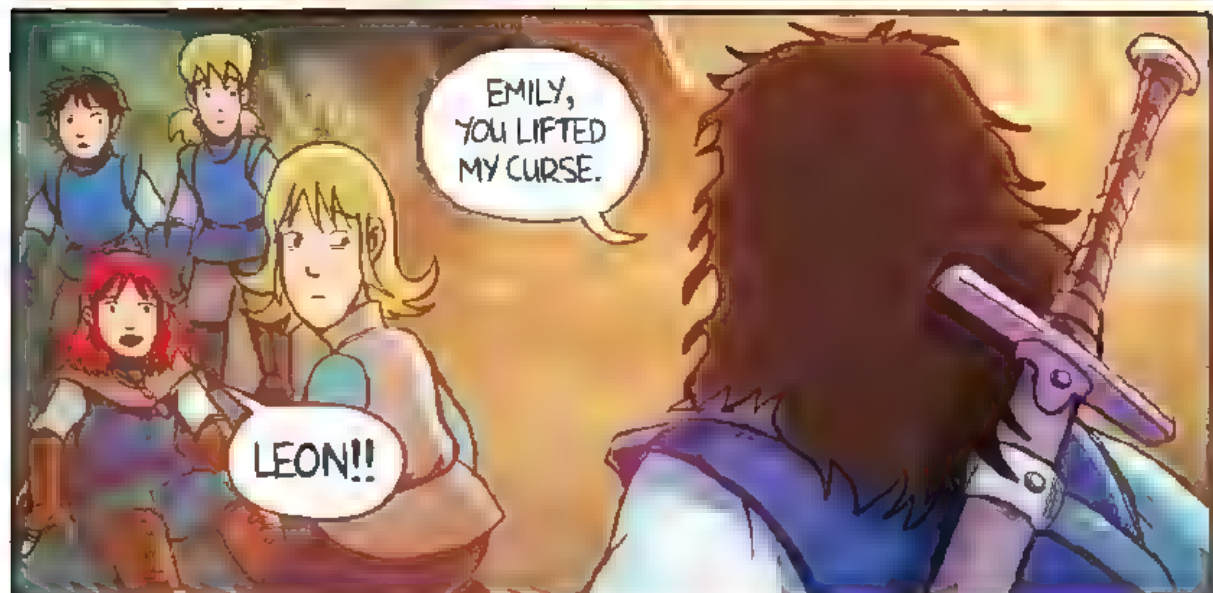











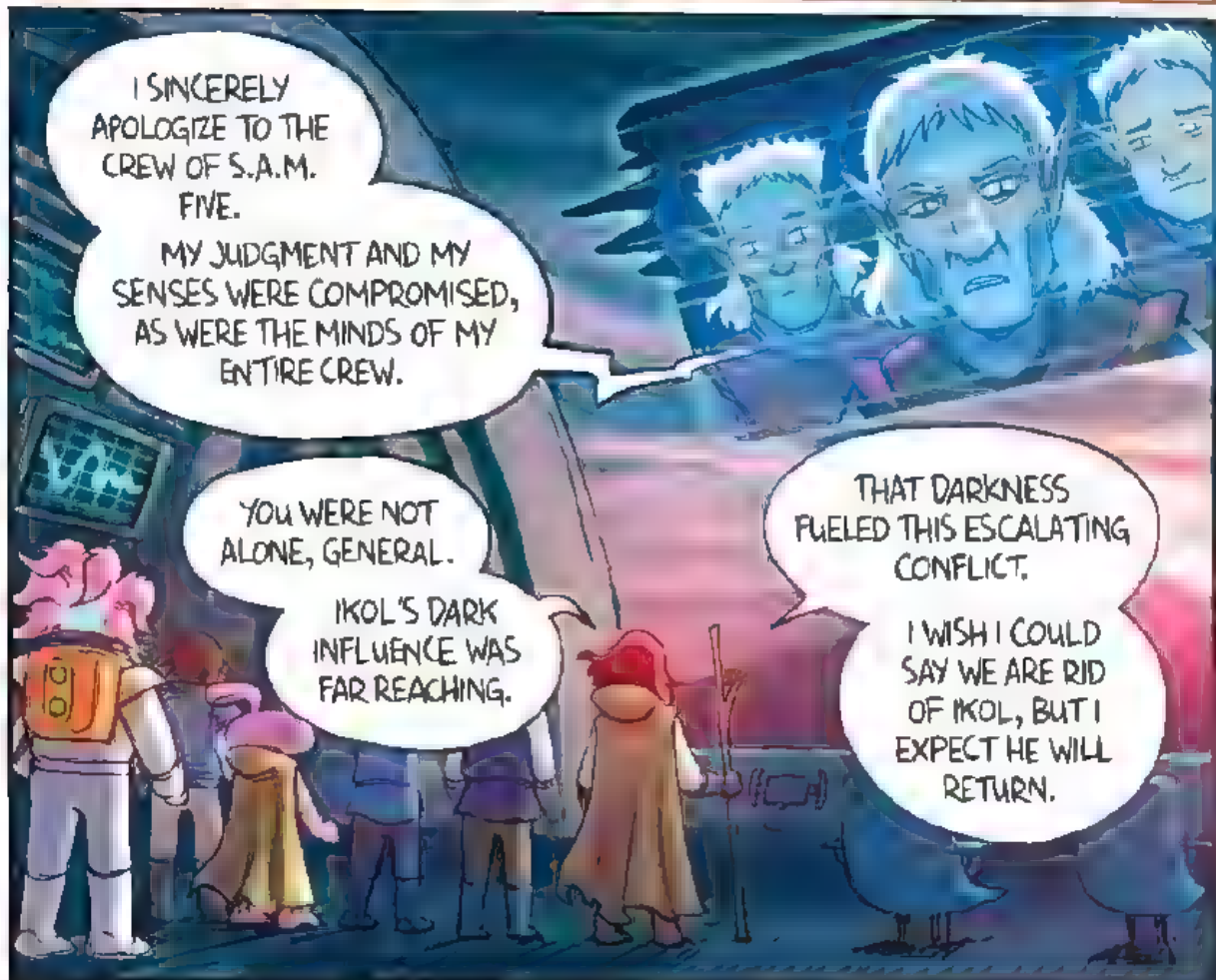
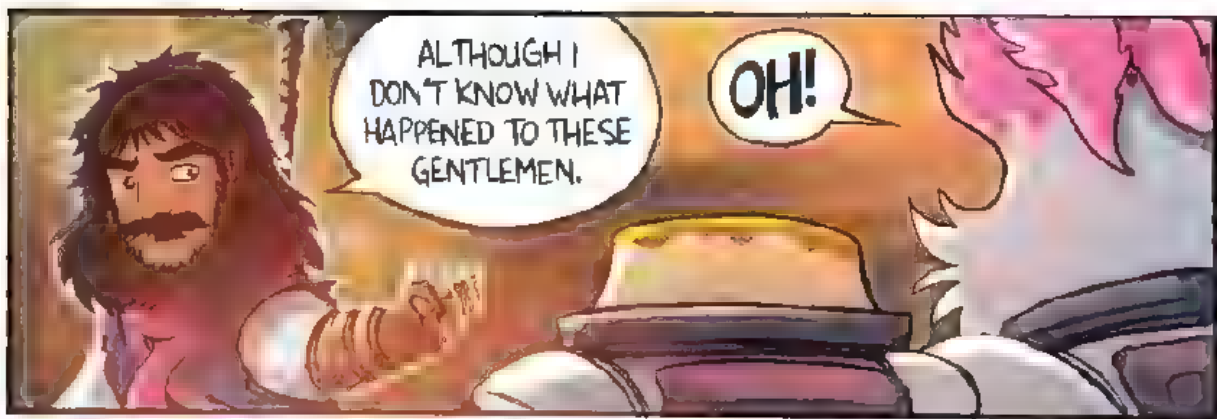


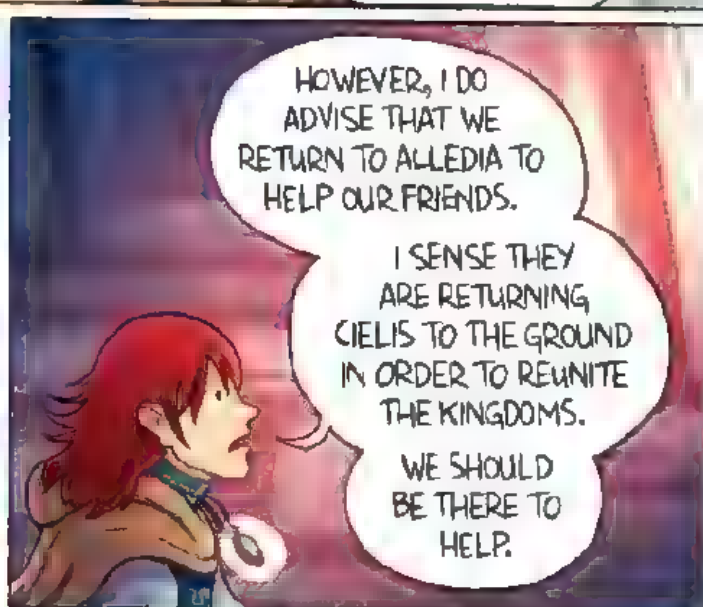
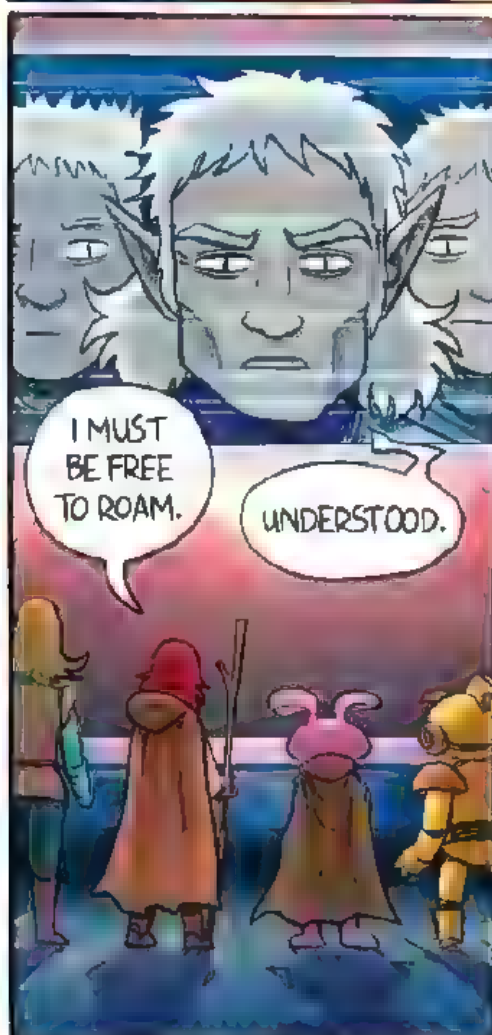
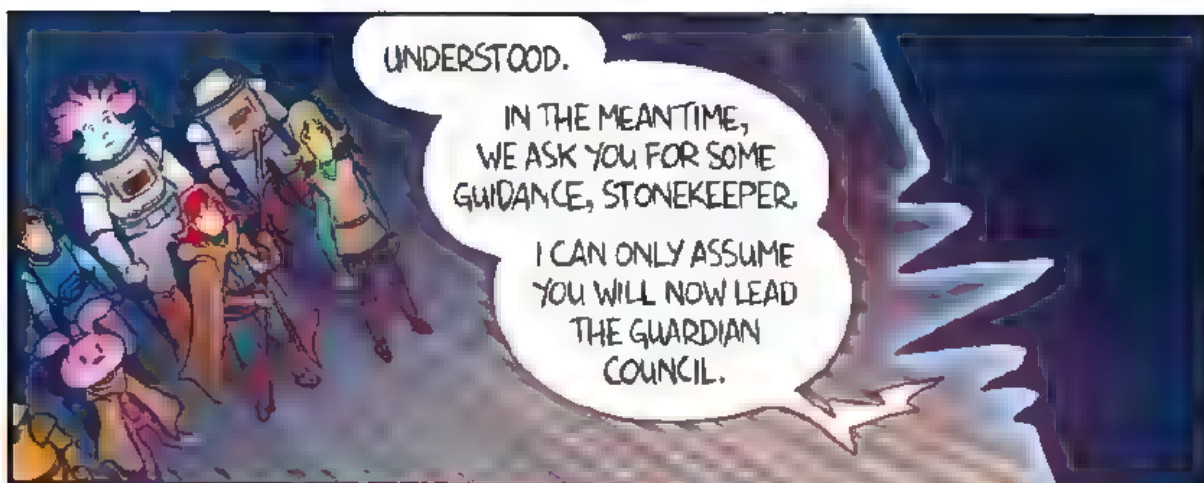


THIS MUST BE  
HAPPENING IN  
ALLEDIA, TOO.

THE CURSED ARE  
RETURNING TO THEIR  
ORIGINAL SELVES.











OUR FUEL IS  
DEPLETED AND  
THE VEHICLES  
ARE ALL IN BAD  
SHAPE.

I DON'T  
KNOW HOW  
WE CAN FLY  
BACK.



NAVIN, YOU AND  
THE PILOTS WORRY  
ABOUT GETTING THE  
VEHICLES READY.

I CAN PROVIDE  
THE POWER--



WITH THE  
HELP OF SOME  
NEW FRIENDS.



CALA AND  
CORA--

I WILL NEED  
YOUR HELP ONE  
LAST TIME.

OF COURSE,  
EMILY.

YOU WILL  
ALWAYS HAVE  
OUR SUPPORT.

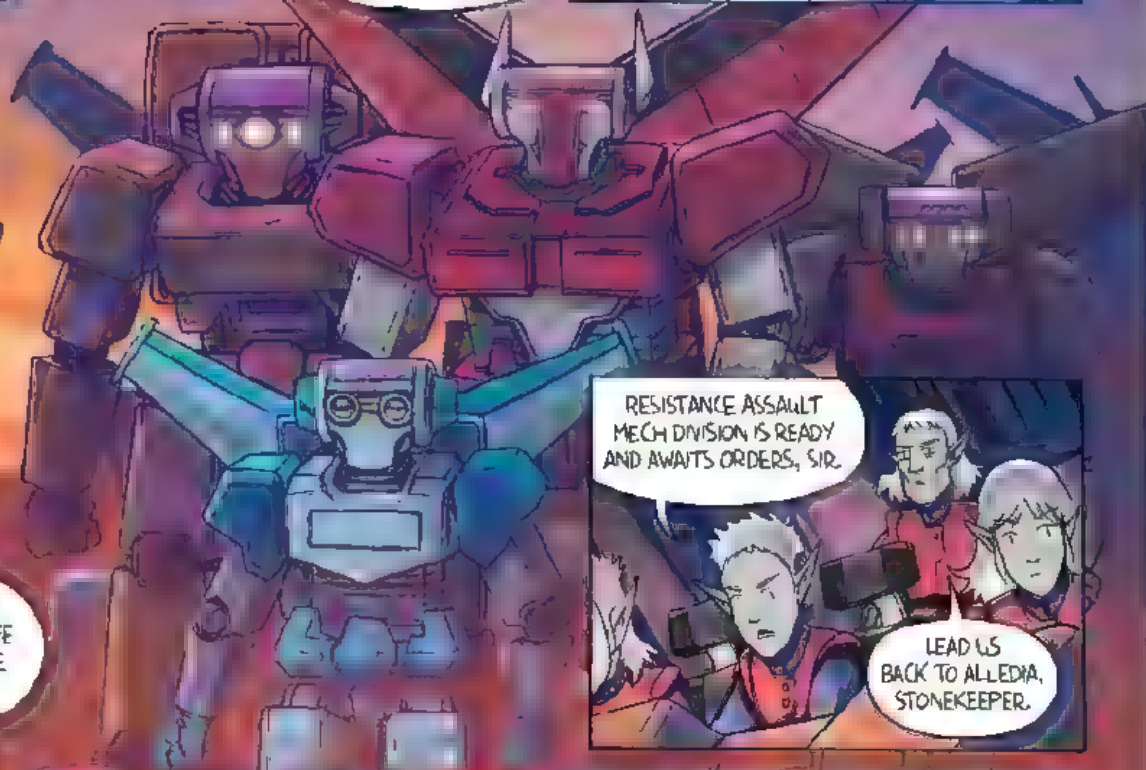
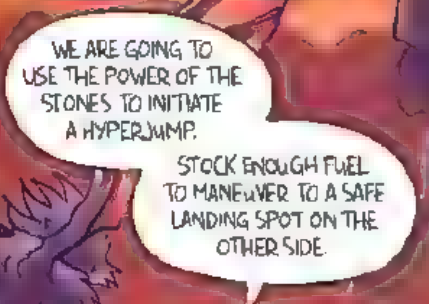
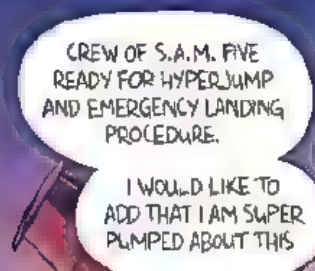
WHAT CAN  
WE HELP YOU  
WITH?



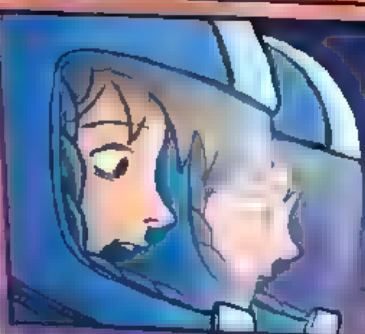
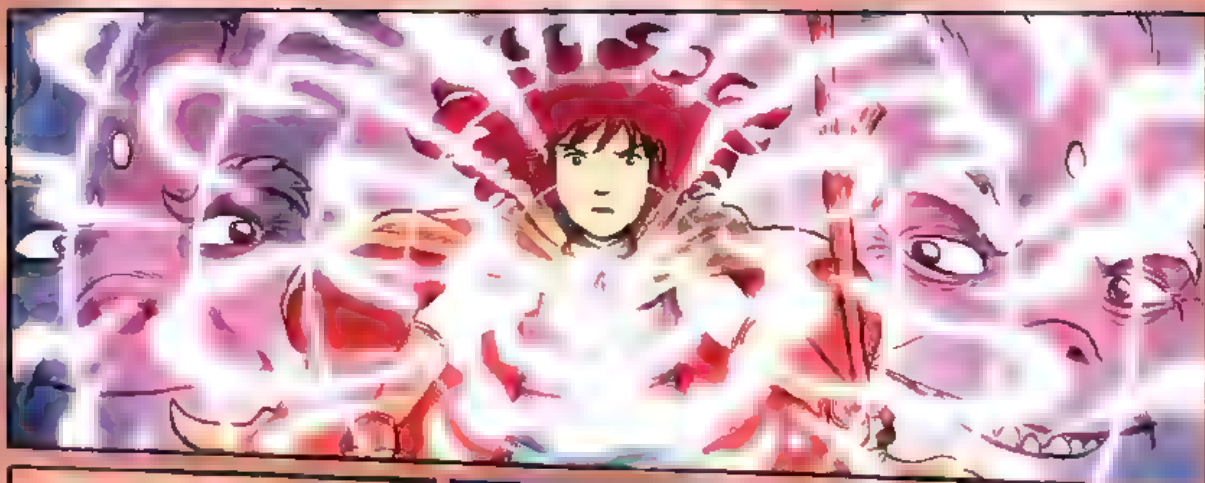
I NEED YOU BOTH TO  
HELP ME TRANSPORT  
THIS ARMY BACK TO  
ALLEDIA SAFELY.

YES.

THE ENTIRE  
ARMY?  
VEHICLES AND  
EVERYTHING?







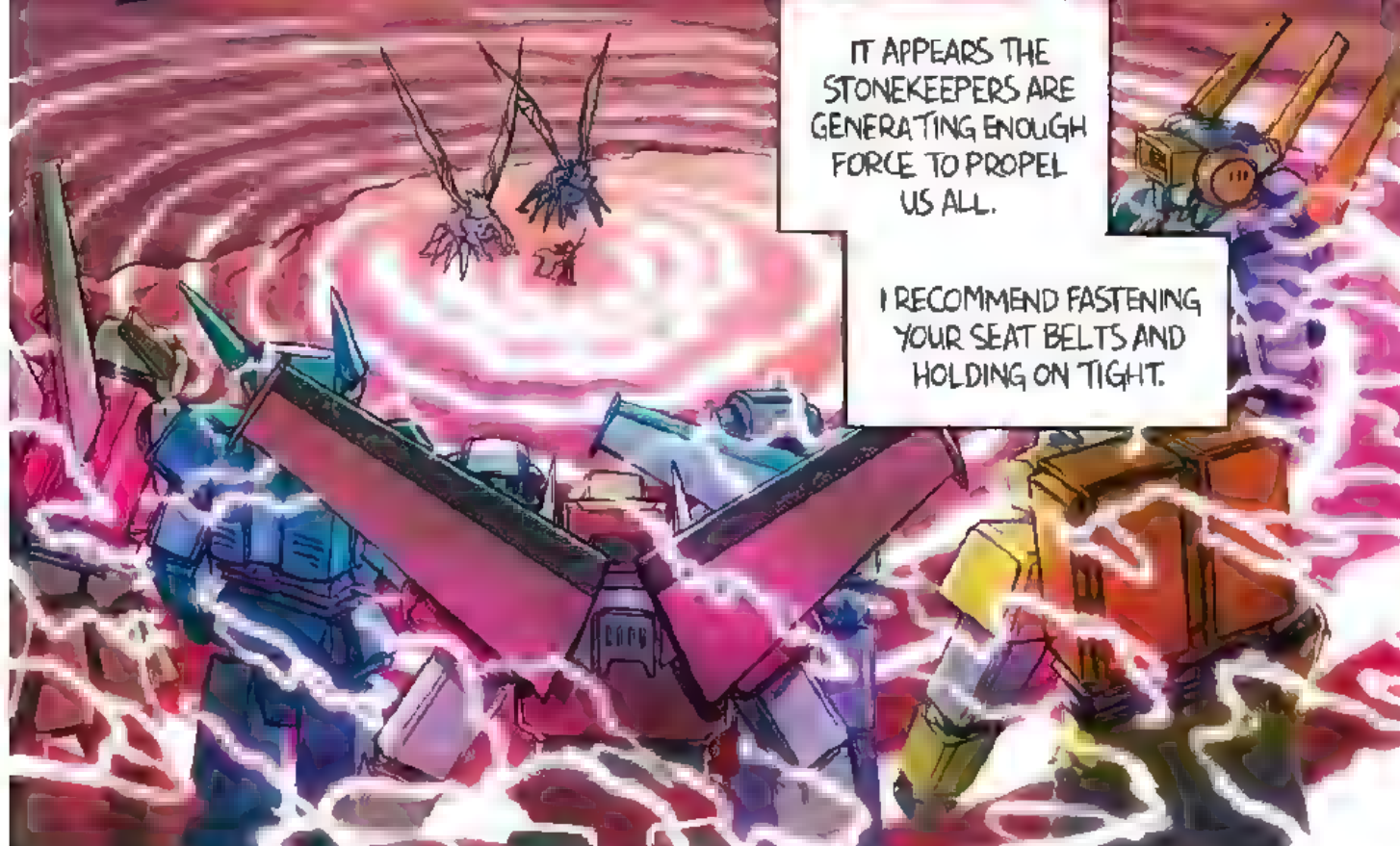
AUXILIARY  
POWER INCREASING  
PAST CAPACITY!

AND I THINK IT'S  
ONLY READING THE  
STONE POWER!



IT APPEARS THE  
STONEKEEPERS ARE  
GENERATING ENOUGH  
FORCE TO PROPEL  
US ALL.

I RECOMMEND FASTENING  
YOUR SEAT BELTS AND  
HOLDING ON TIGHT.



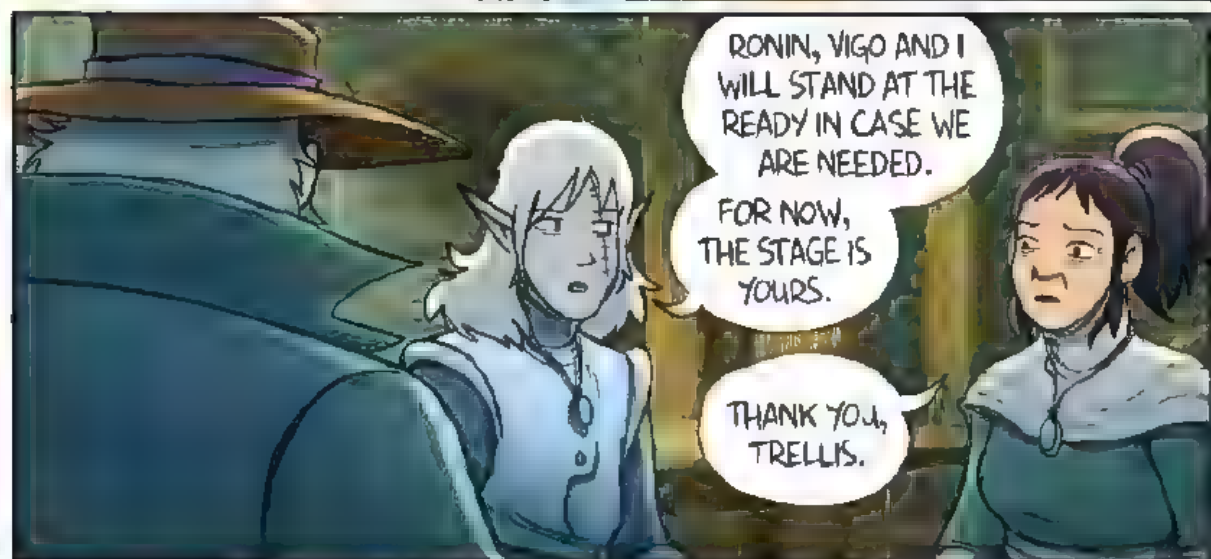
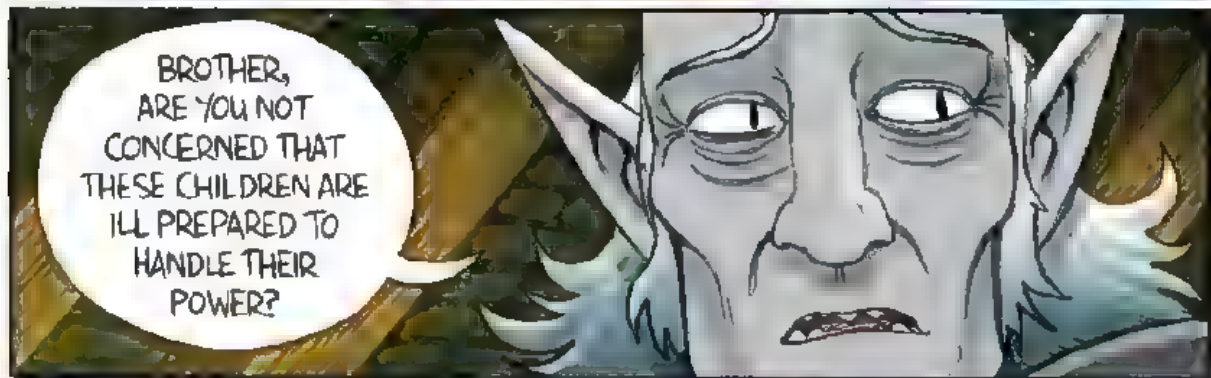
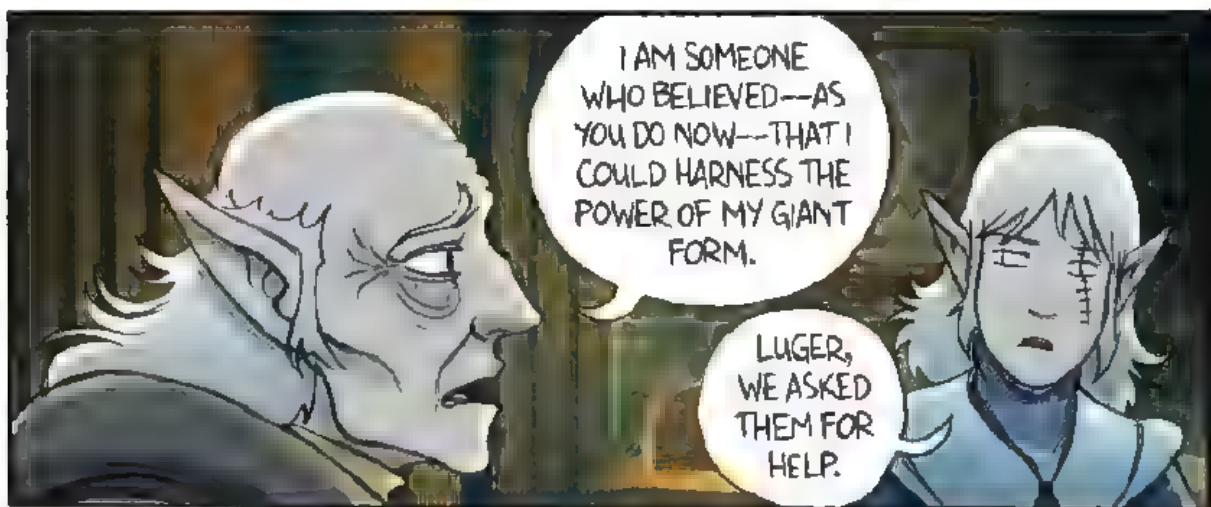


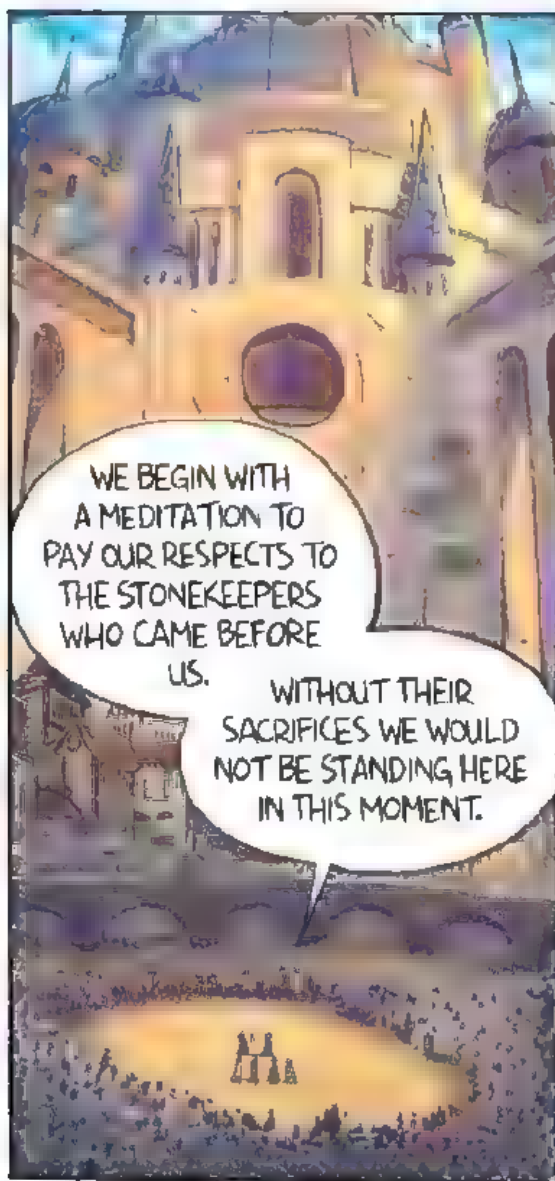










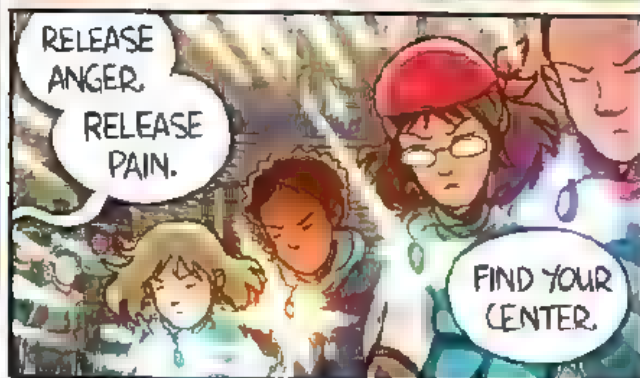


WE BEGIN WITH  
A MEDITATION TO  
PAY OUR RESPECTS TO  
THE STONEKEEPERS  
WHO CAME BEFORE  
US.

WITHOUT THEIR  
SACRIFICES WE WOULD  
NOT BE STANDING HERE  
IN THIS MOMENT.

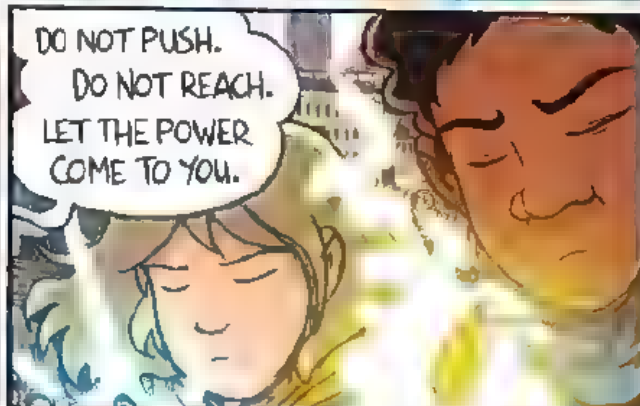


WITHOUT THEIR  
KNOWLEDGE, WE  
WOULD NOT KNOW  
OUR PATH.  
CLOSE YOUR  
EYES AND BEGIN  
TO FOCUS.



RELEASE  
ANGER.  
RELEASE  
PAIN.

FIND YOUR  
CENTER.



DO NOT PUSH.  
DO NOT REACH.  
LET THE POWER  
COME TO YOU.



CATCH YOUR  
POWER LIKE A  
WIND IN YOUR  
SAIL.



NGH.

YOU MUST TRUST  
EACH OTHER. YOU  
MUST KNOW THAT  
OTHERS ARE AT  
YOUR SIDE.

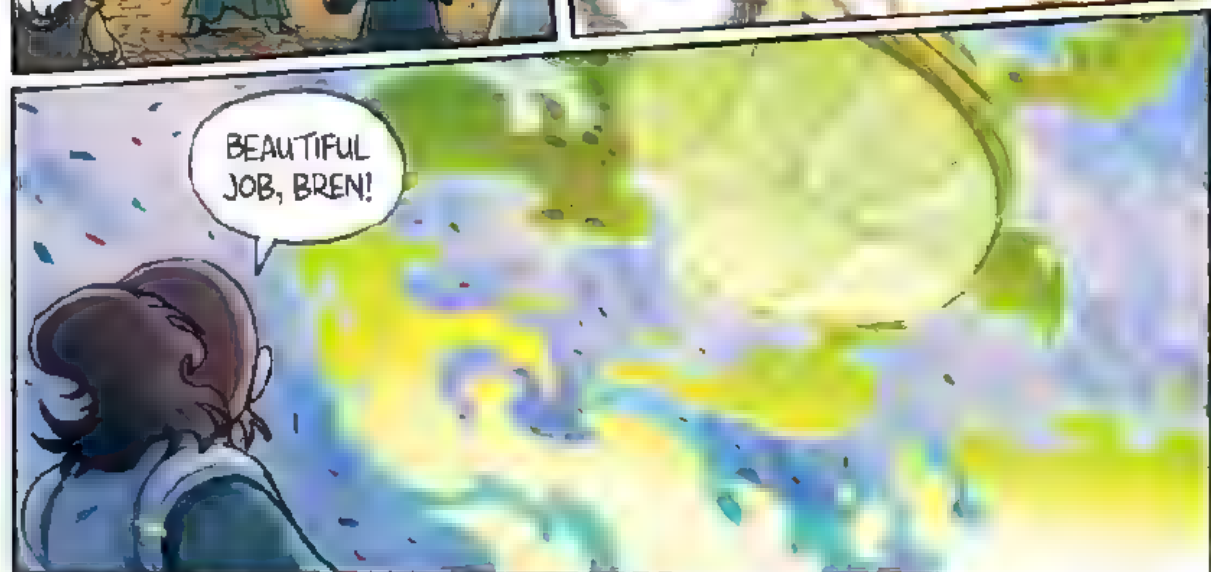
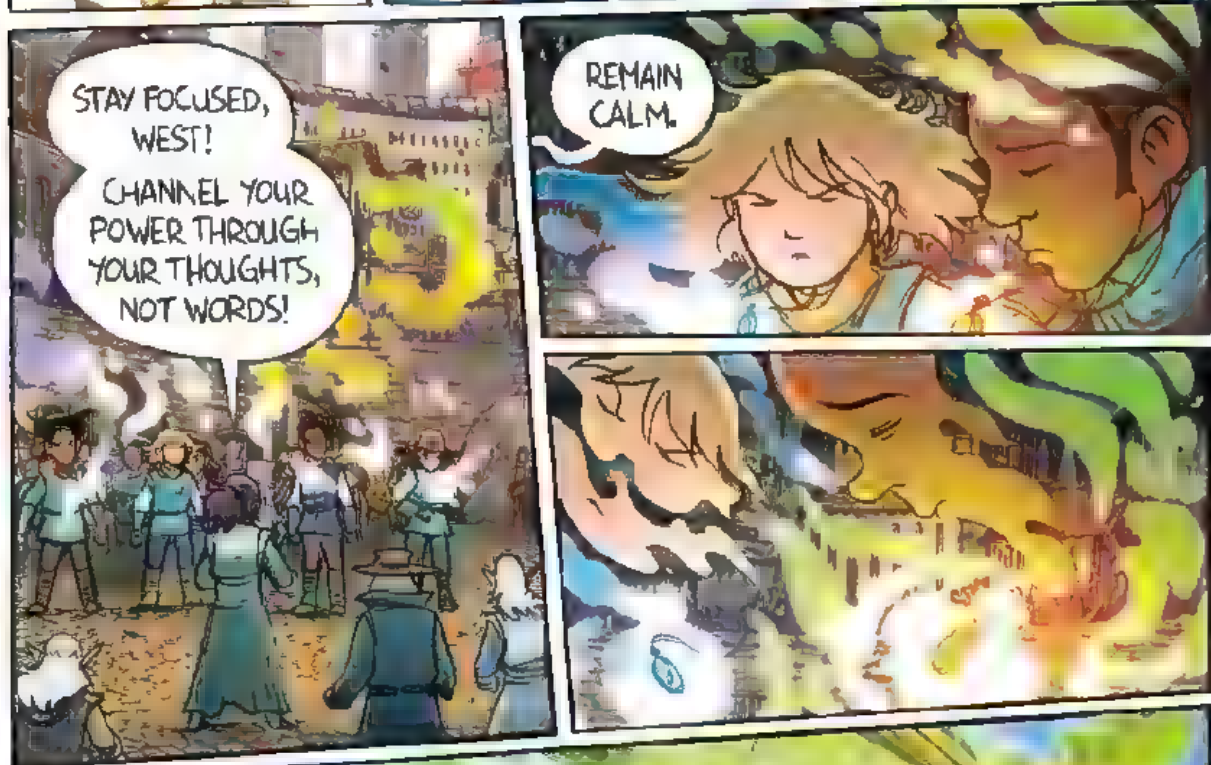
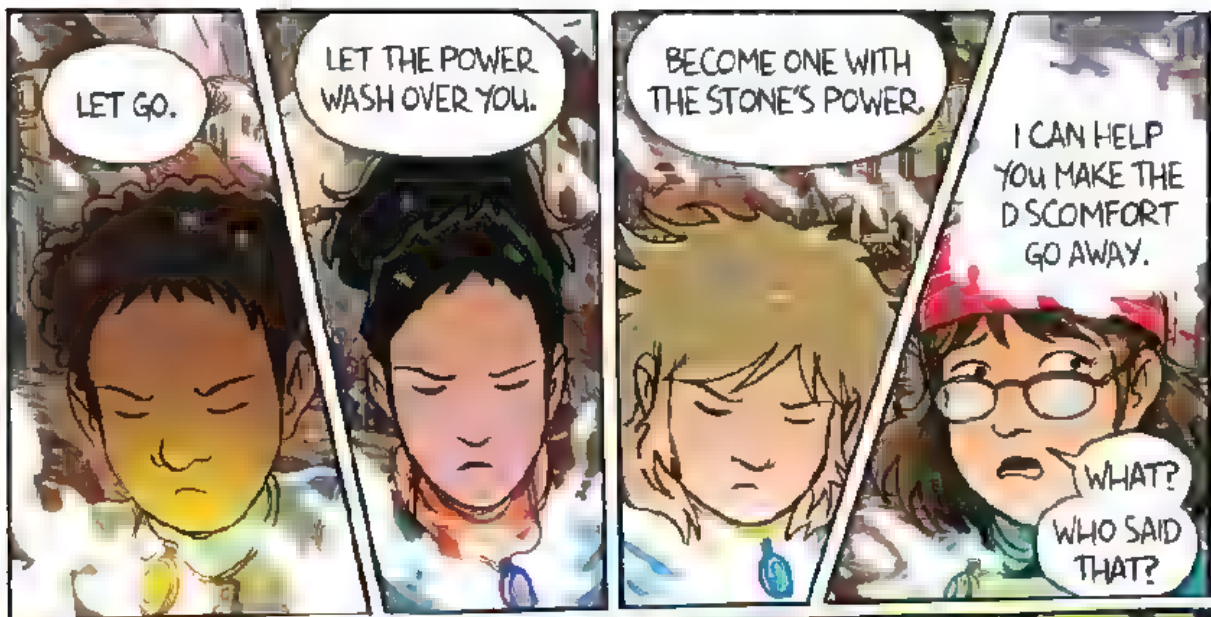


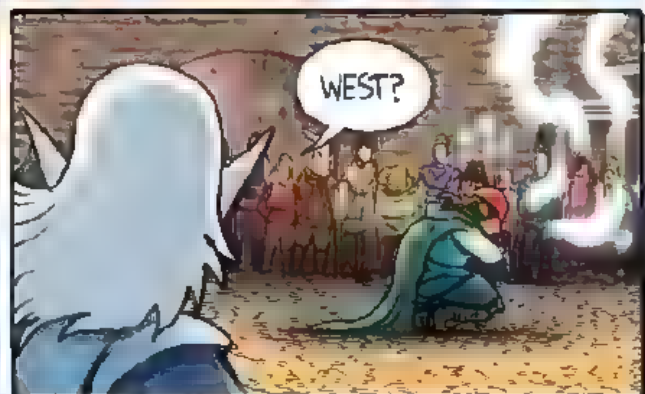
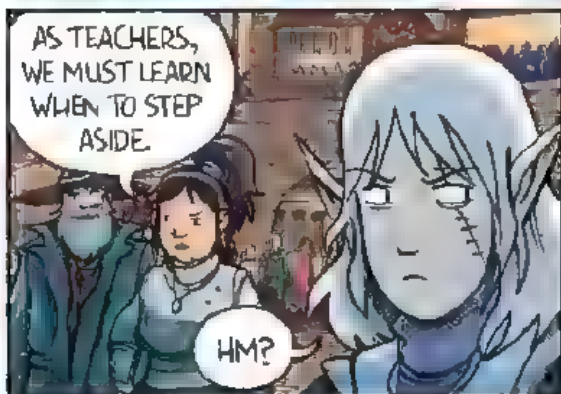
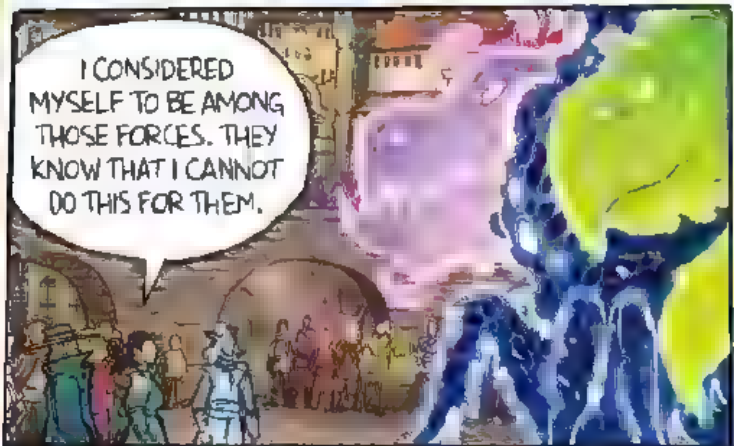
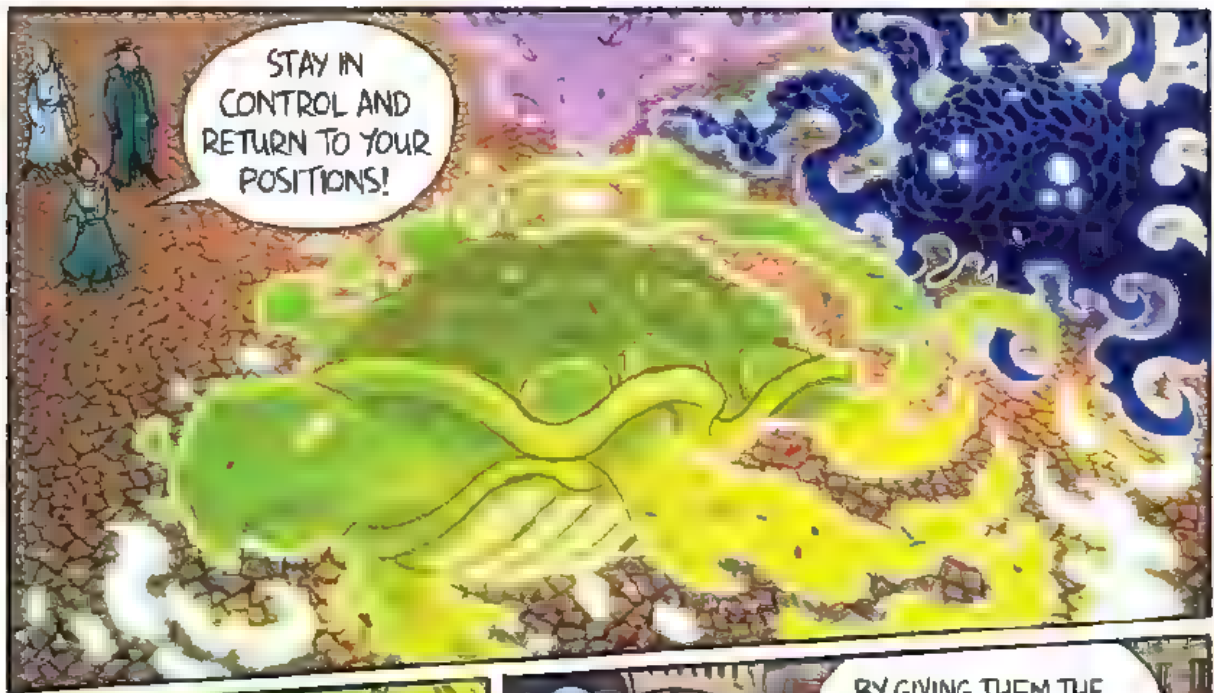
WE ARE MASTERS OF  
DESTINY FOR ONLY  
A MOMENT,  
SO WE MUST BE  
WILLING TO LET IT  
PASS THROUGH US.

PREPARE TO  
LET GO.

SOMETHING  
IS WRONG.









THE OTHERS DO NOT  
APPRECIATE YOUR TALENT.  
THEY DO NOT SEE YOUR  
CONTRIBUTIONS.

NOT LIKE I  
DO, WESTLEY.

I SEE  
YOU.

WE CAN SHOW THEM  
WHAT YOU ARE CAPABLE  
OF, AND THEY WILL  
NEVER UNDERESTIMATE  
YOU AGAIN!

WEST!

DO NOT PUSH  
YOURSELF OVER  
THE EDGE!

STAND DOWN  
AND REGROUP!

GIVE IN TO  
THE STONE'S  
POWER.

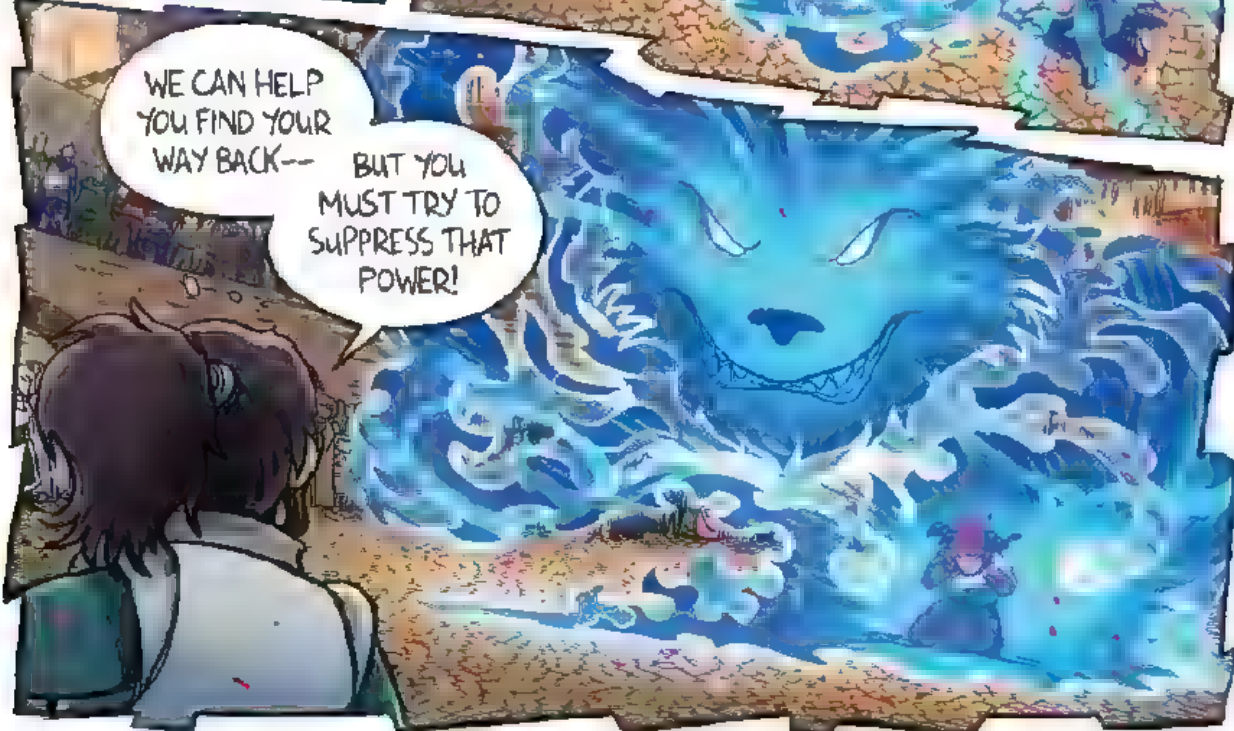
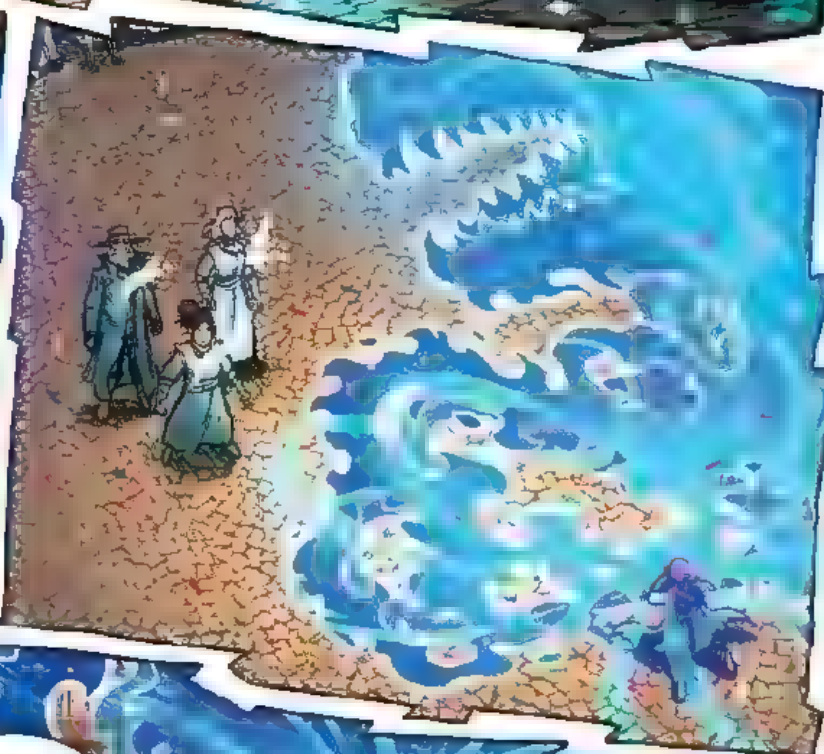
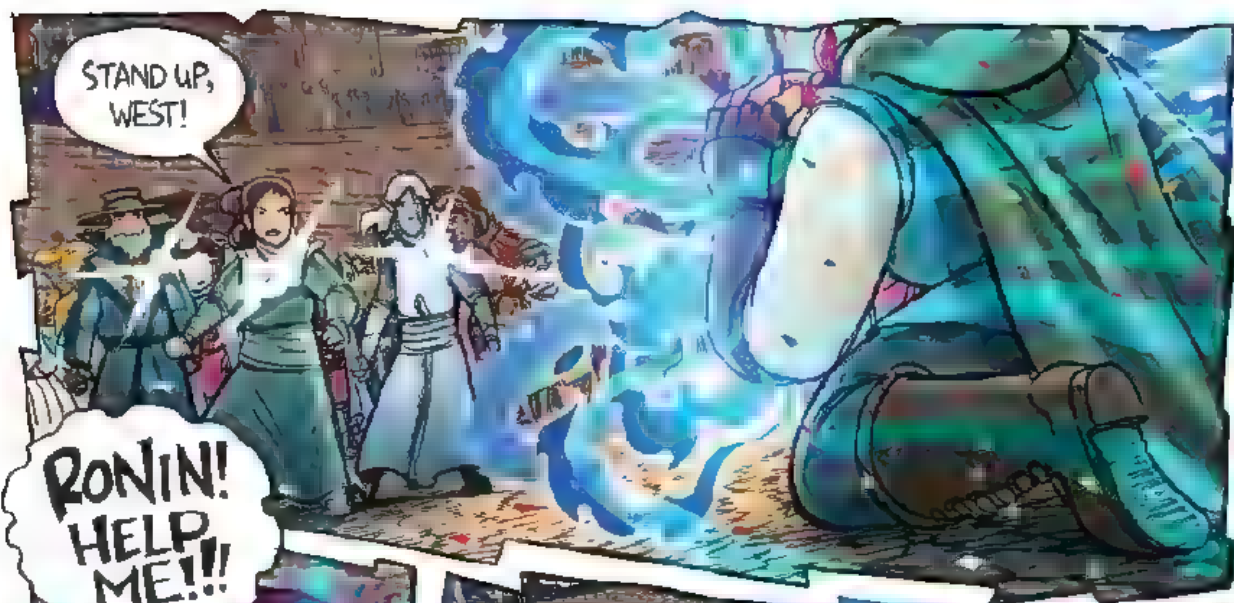
THE OTHERS  
DO NOT CARE  
ABOUT YOU---

NOT LIKE  
I DO.

GIVE ME  
CONTROL.

NO-- NO--

HELP  
ME!!!

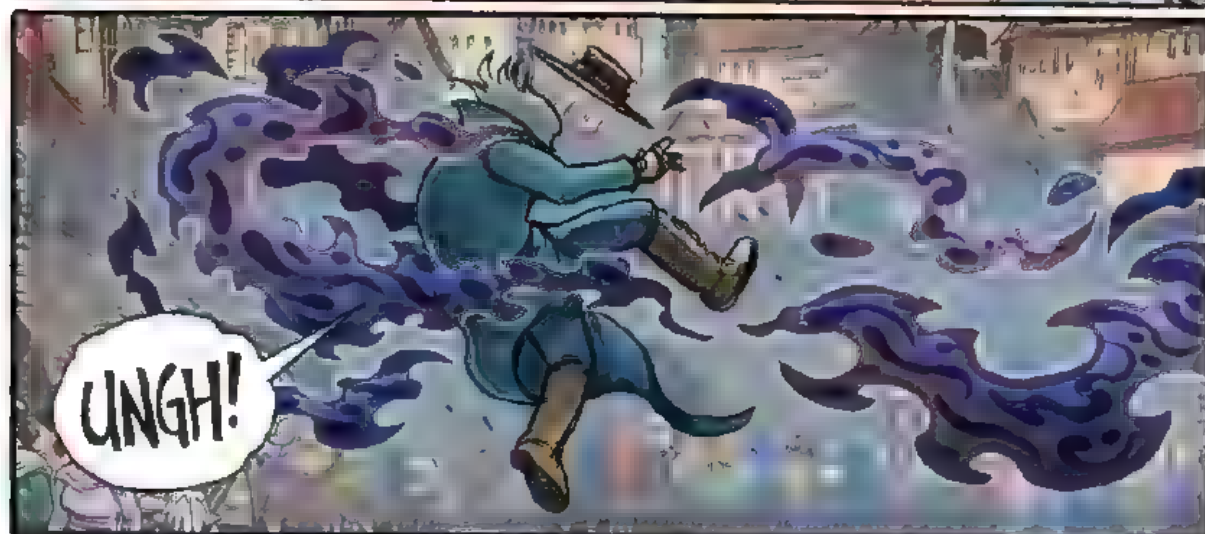
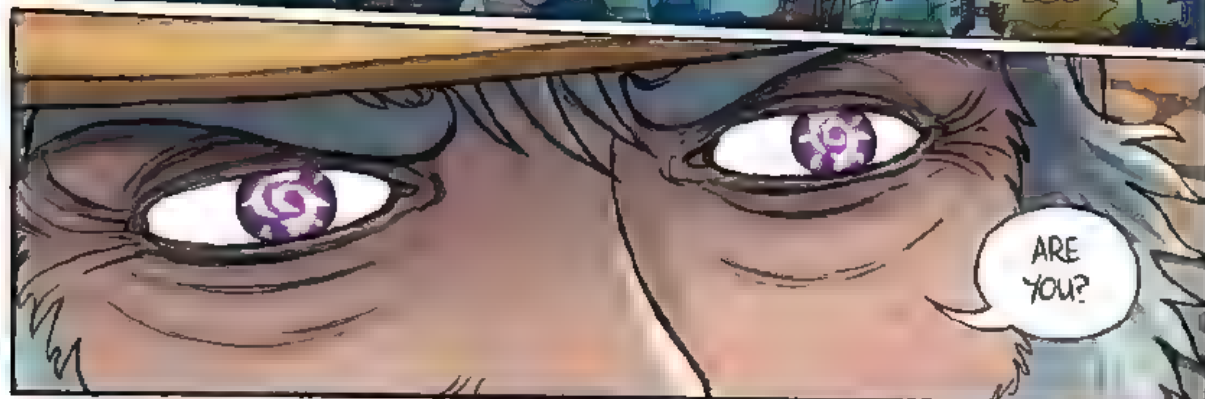
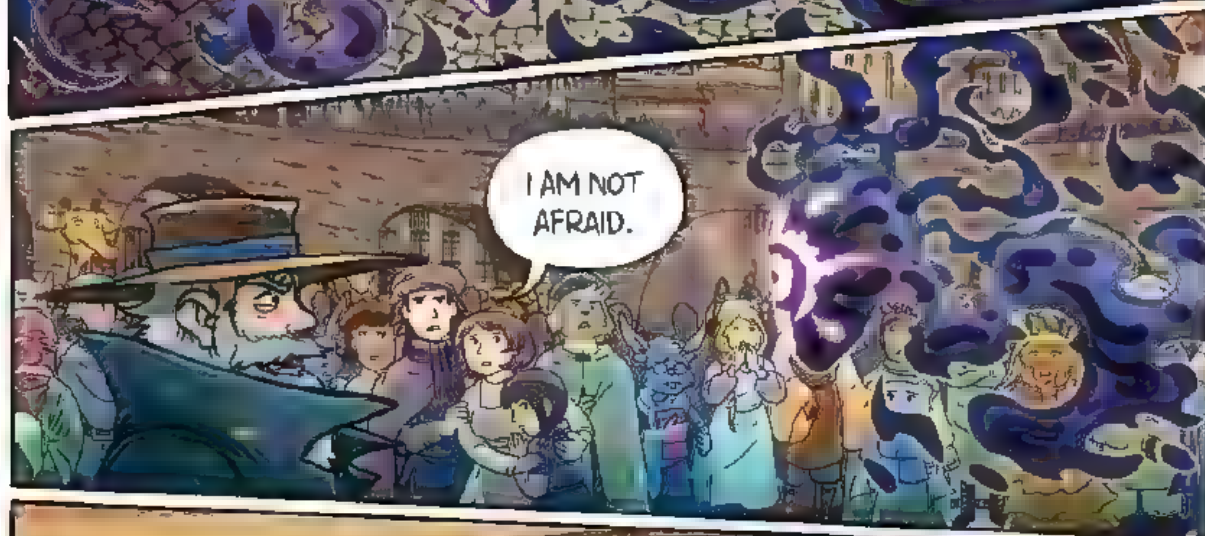
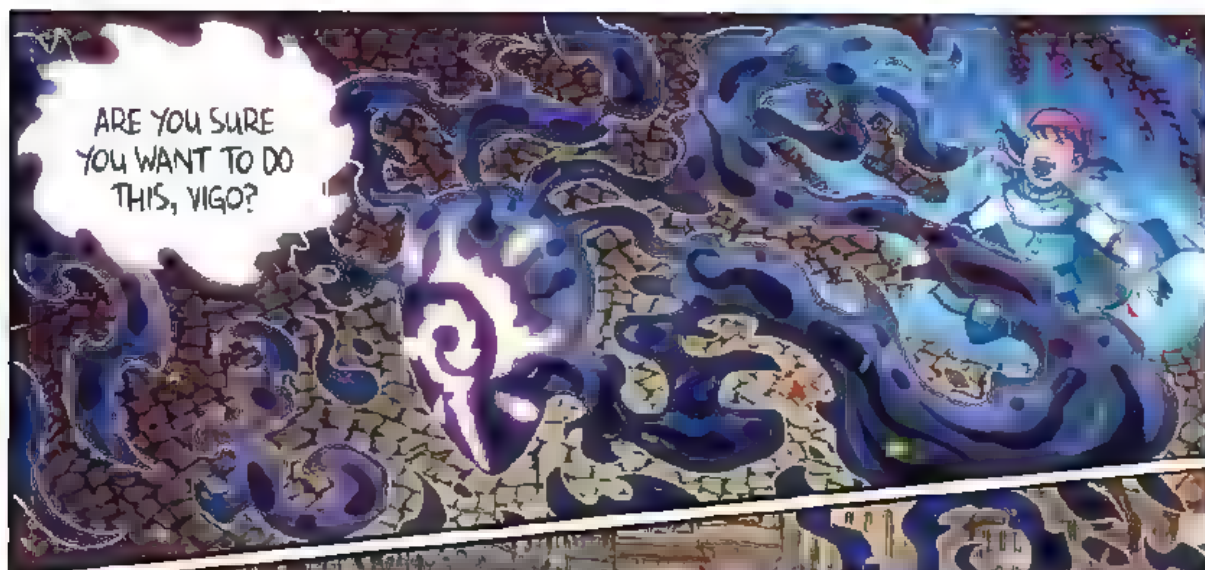






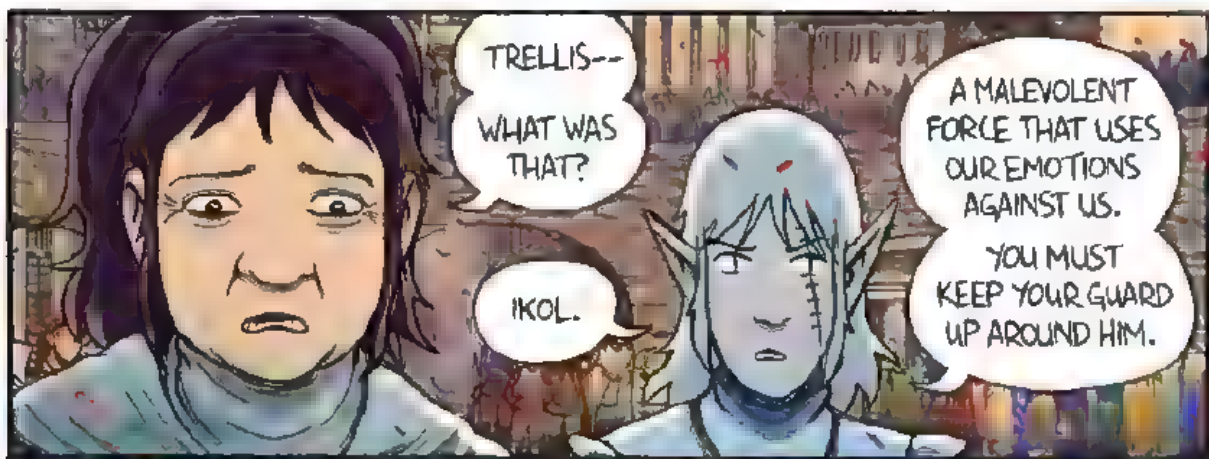












TRELLIS--  
WHAT WAS  
THAT?

IKOL.

A MALEVOLENT  
FORCE THAT USES  
OUR EMOTIONS  
AGAINST US.  
YOU MUST  
KEEP YOUR GUARD  
UP AROUND HIM.

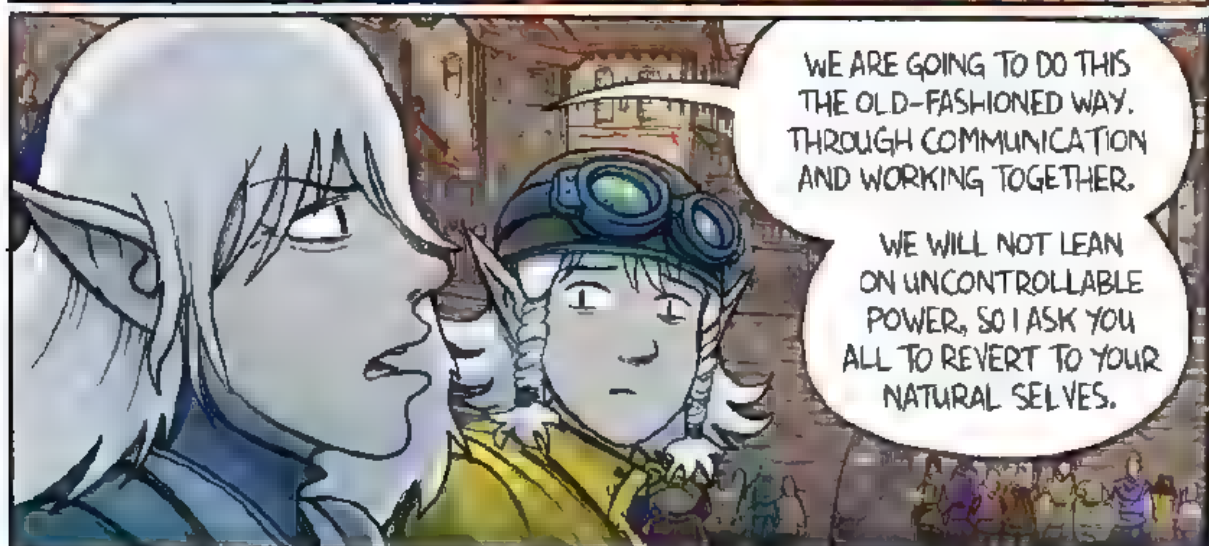


VIGO HAS GIVEN  
HIS LIFE TO BUY  
US TIME.

WE MUST  
NOT WASTE  
IT.

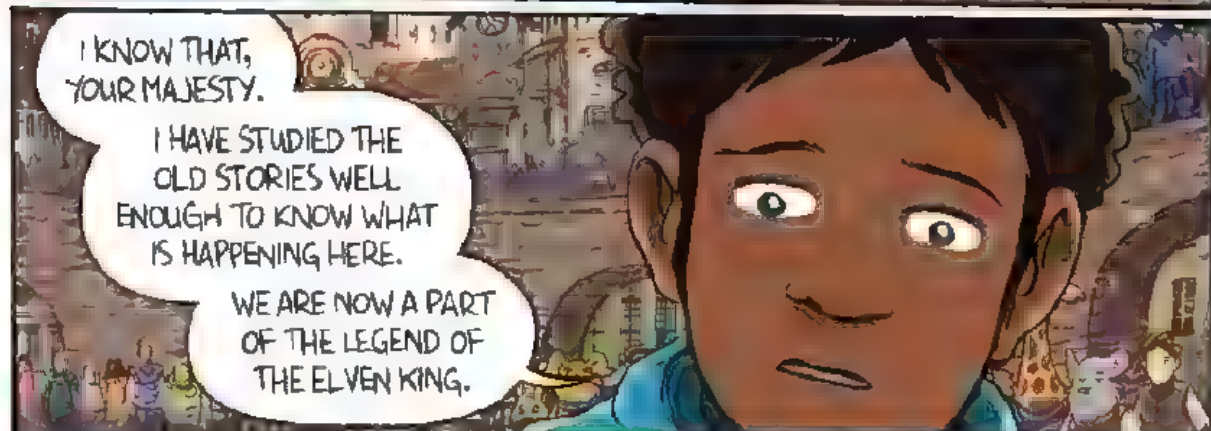
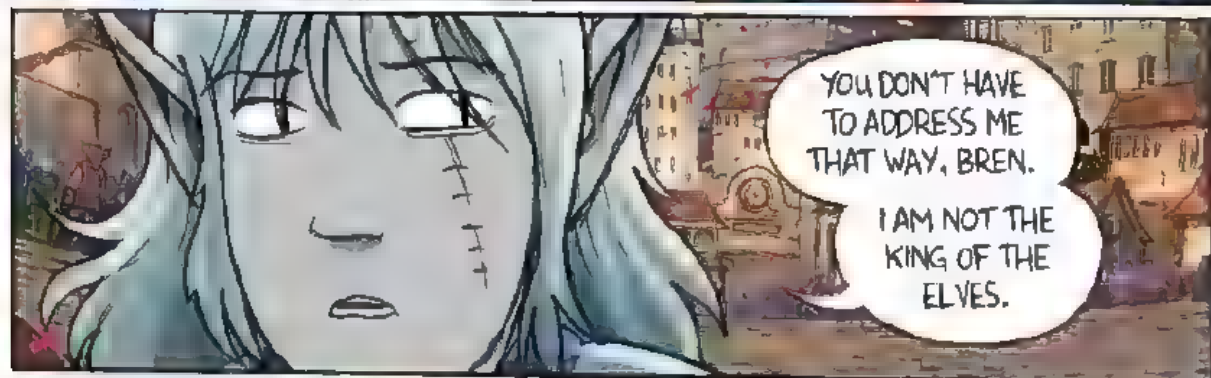
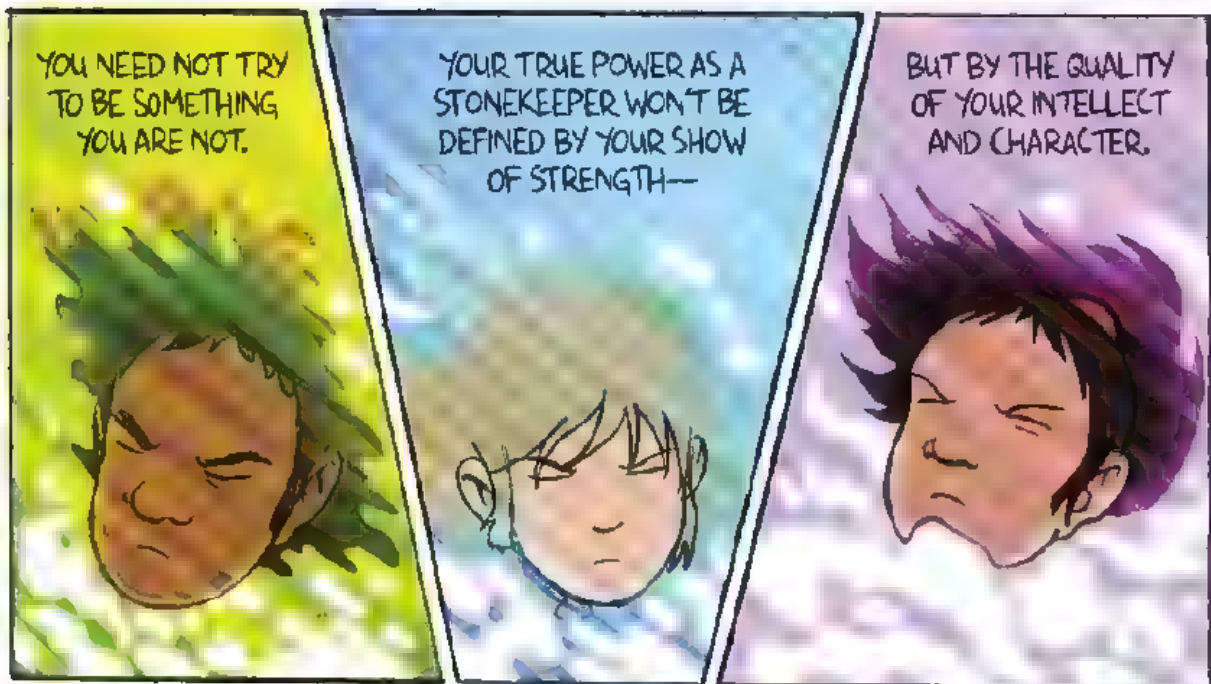
I WILL GUIDE  
CIELIS BACK TO ITS  
PROPER LOCATION,  
BUT I WILL NEED YOUR  
HELP AND THE HELP  
OF EVERYONE HERE  
IN THE CITY.

EVERY CITIZEN,  
INCLUDING THE  
CHILDREN, WILL HELP  
US LAND THE CITY  
SAFELY.



WE ARE GOING TO DO THIS  
THE OLD-FASHIONED WAY.  
THROUGH COMMUNICATION  
AND WORKING TOGETHER.

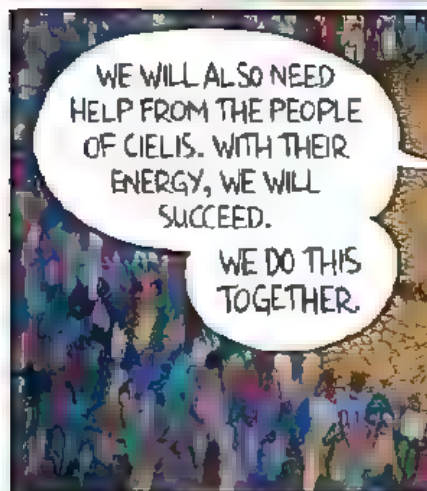
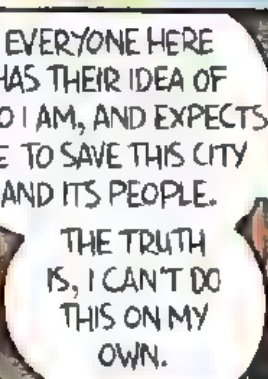
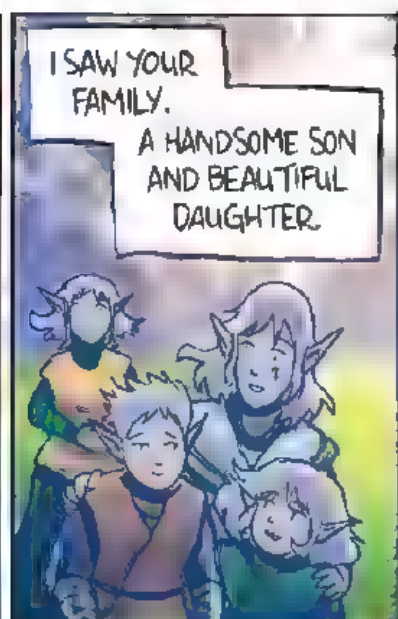
WE WILL NOT LEAN  
ON UNCONTROLLABLE  
POWER, SO I ASK YOU  
ALL TO REVERT TO YOUR  
NATURAL SELVES.



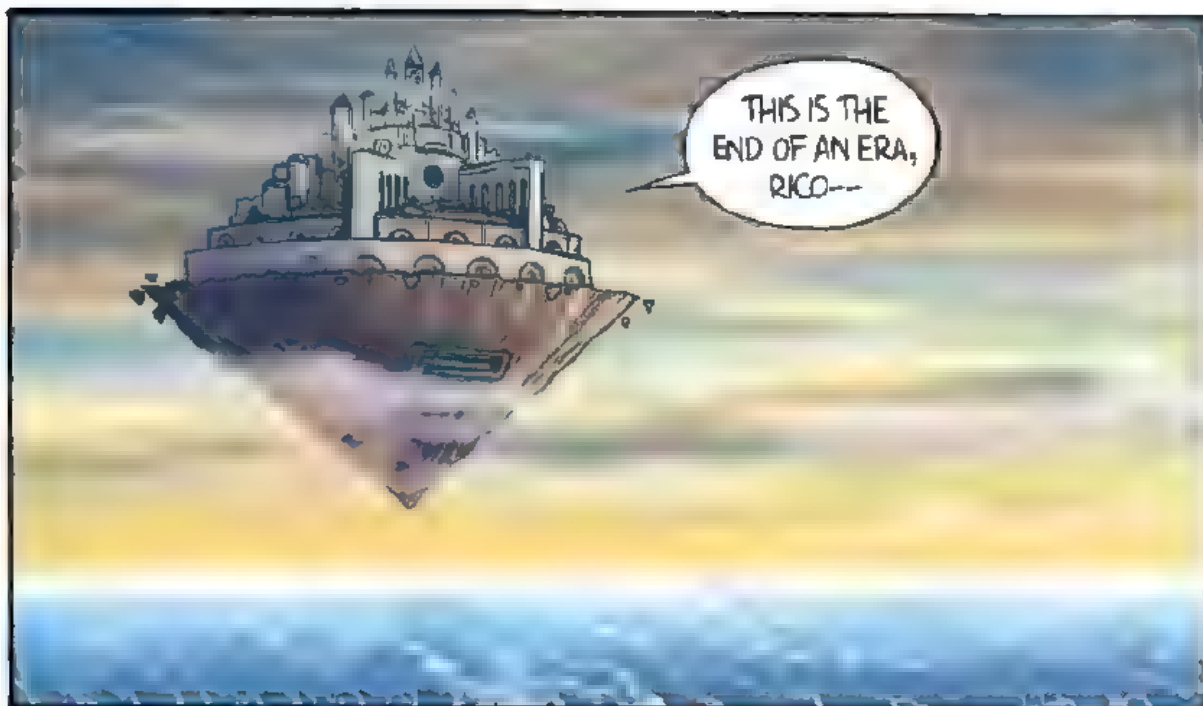


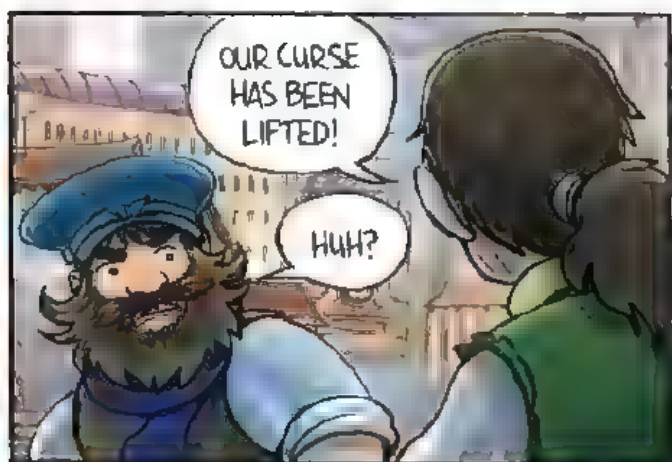


YOU MAY NO LONGER BE  
THE KING OF VALCOR OR  
RULER OF THE ELVES, BUT  
YOU WILL LEAD US HERE IN  
CIELIS AS THE ELDER  
STONEKEEPER OF THE  
GUARDIAN COUNCIL.













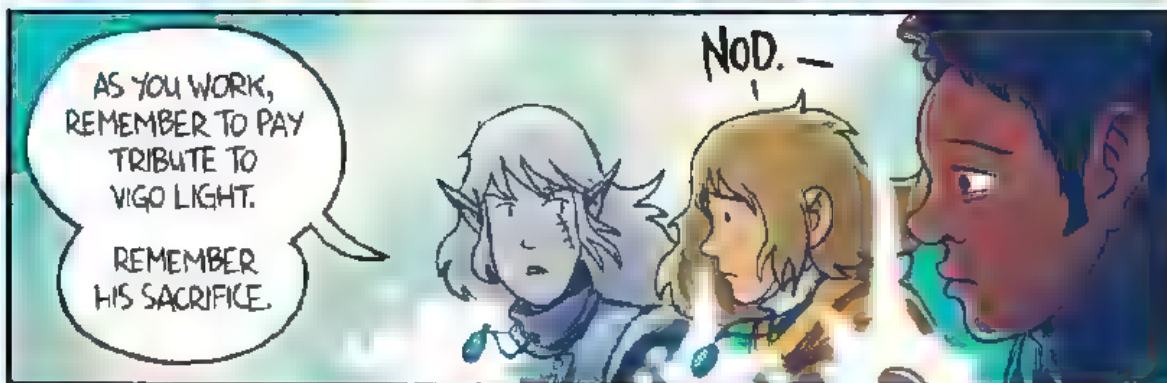
THIS IS IT,  
STONEKEEPERS  
OF THE QUARRY.

THIS IS WHAT  
YOU'VE BEEN  
TRAINING FOR.



ALL THAT YOU  
HAVE LEARNED AS  
DESIGNERS AND  
BUILDERS--

THAT KNOWLEDGE  
WILL BE PUT TO  
USE TODAY.



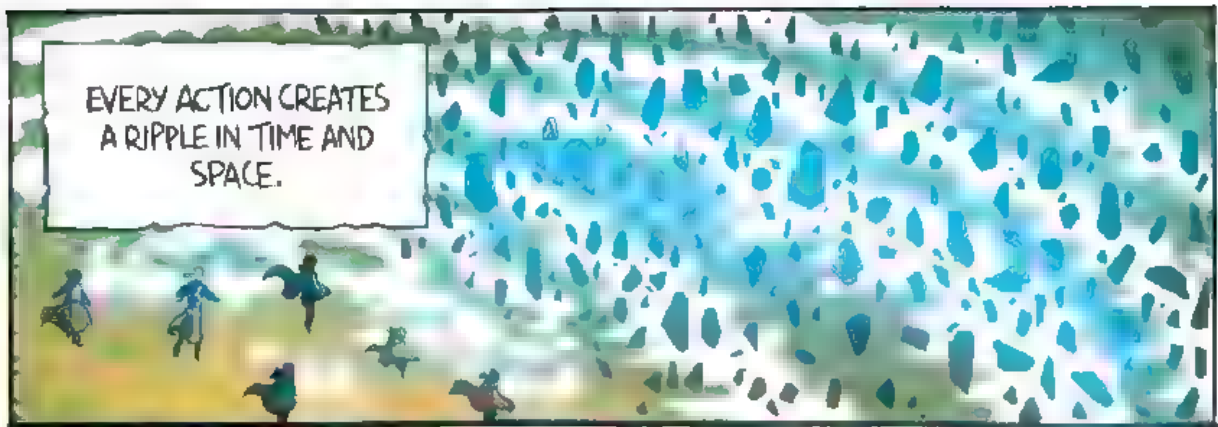
AS YOU WORK,  
REMEMBER TO PAY  
TRIBUTE TO  
VIGO LIGHT.

REMEMBER  
HIS SACRIFICE.

NOD. —



STRAK!  
BOOM!  
THOOM!



EVERY ACTION CREATES  
A RIPPLE IN TIME AND  
SPACE.



EACH RIPPLE HAS THE  
POTENTIAL TO BECOME  
A GIANT WAVE WHEN  
AMPLIFIED OUT ACROSS  
THE UNIVERSE.



WHAT WE DO HERE  
RESONATES FAR BEYOND  
OUR REACH AND VISION.



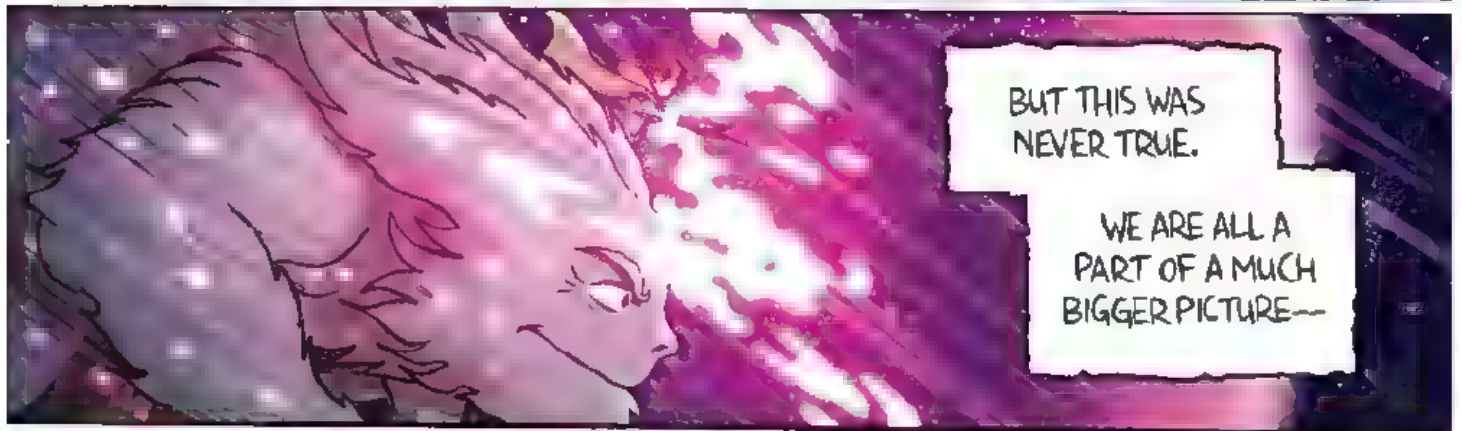
IKOL WAS A MASTER OF  
LIES, BUT EVERY NOW AND  
THEN HE OBSERVED THE  
TRUTH.





HE USED THESE  
TRUTHS TO MAKE ME  
BELIEVE THAT HE  
AND I WERE ALONE.

THAT THE FATE  
OF THE UNIVERSE  
RESTED UPON OUR  
SHOULDERS.



BUT THIS WAS  
NEVER TRUE.

WE ARE ALL A  
PART OF A MUCH  
BIGGER PICTURE---



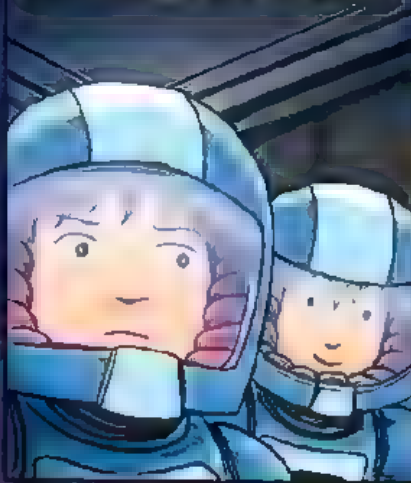
A PICTURE  
THAT PAINTS  
ITSELF.



NO ONE PERSON OR  
CREATURE OR THING  
IS RESPONSIBLE FOR  
THE FATE OF ALL  
OTHERS.

THE BIGGER PICTURE  
REMAINS OUT OF OUR  
CONTROL.

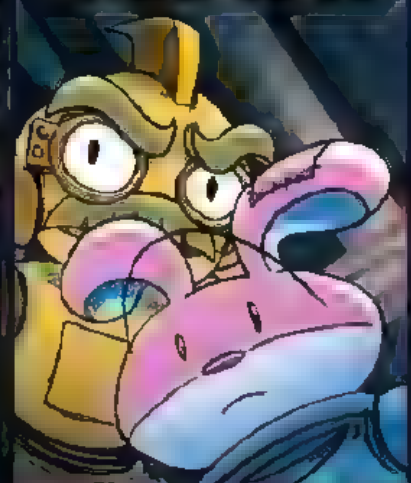
EVERY ONE OF US HAS A  
PART TO PLAY.



EVEN WHEN WE ARE  
WORLDS APART--



OR SEPARATED BY TIME  
AND KNOWLEDGE.

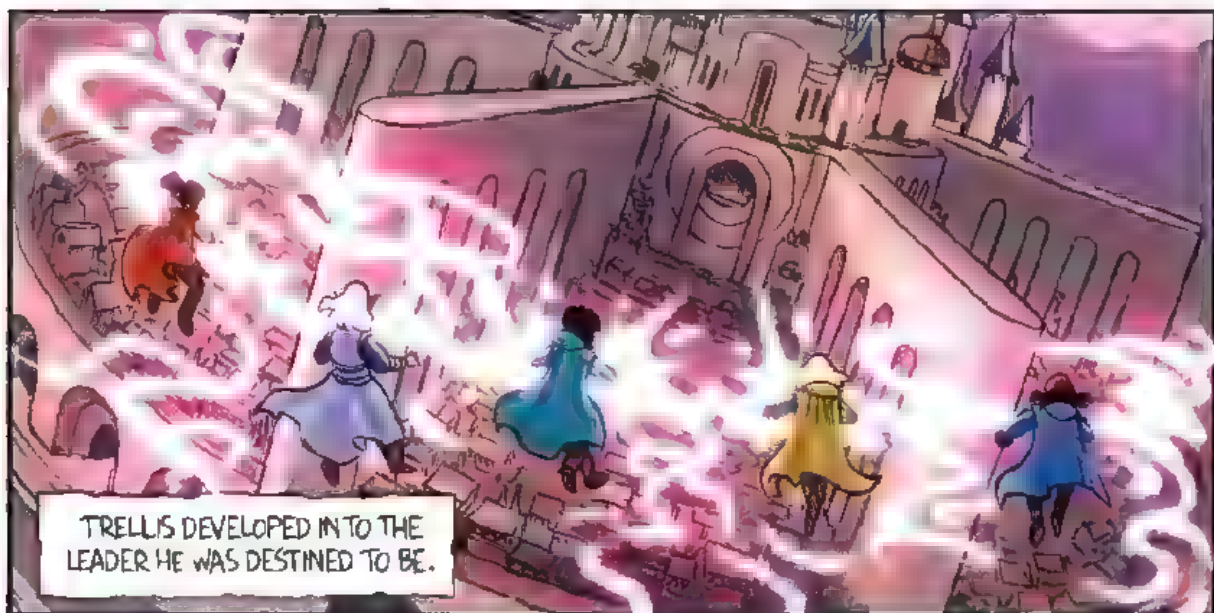


WE ARE ALL A PART  
OF THE PICTURE.



MY FRIENDS ON ALLEDIA  
BEGAN THE LONG JOURNEY  
OF BRINGING THEIR WORLD  
BACK TOGETHER.





TRELLIS DEVELOPED INTO THE LEADER HE WAS DESTINED TO BE.



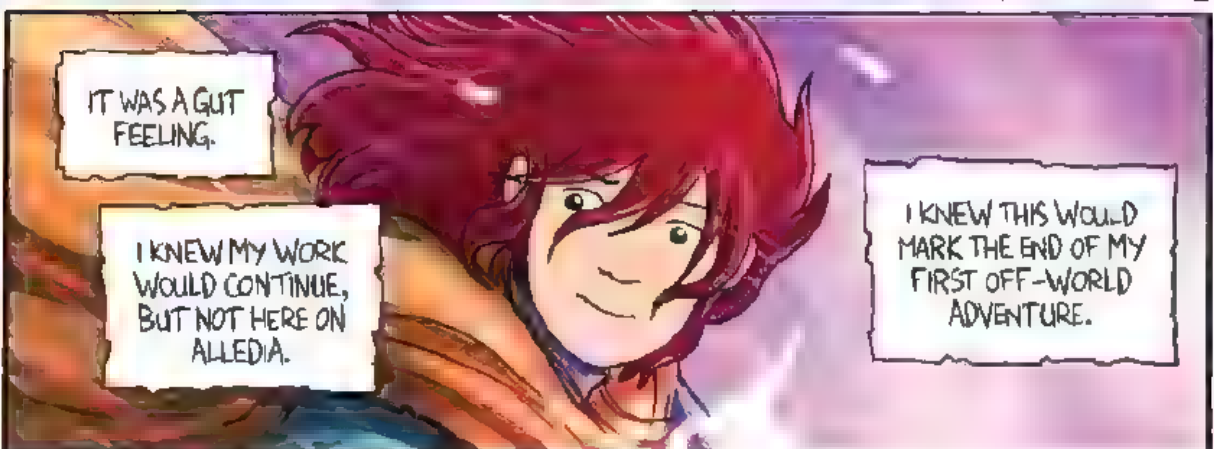
WITH RONIN'S DISCIPLES FROM THE GUARRY BY HIS SIDE, TRELLIS WOULD RULE OVER MANY YEARS OF PEACE IN ALLEDIA.



TRELLIS WOULD ASK ME TO JOIN THEM.

AS MUCH AS I WANTED TO CONTINUE MY JOURNEY WITH THE STONEKEEPERS--

I FELT THAT I COULD NOT ACCEPT.



IT WAS A GUT FEELING.

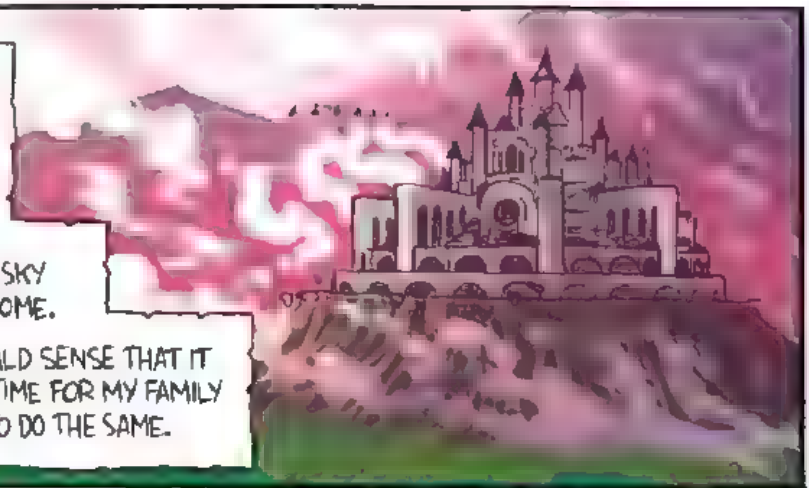
I KNEW MY WORK WOULD CONTINUE, BUT NOT HERE ON ALLEDIA.

I KNEW THIS WOULD MARK THE END OF MY FIRST OFF-WORLD ADVENTURE.

AFTER SPENDING FAR TOO MANY YEARS HIDDEN IN THE CLOUDS, THE CITY OF CIELIS HAD FINALLY RETURNED TO ITS ORIGINAL LOCATION.

THE CITY IN THE SKY HAD RETURNED HOME.

I COULD SENSE THAT IT WAS TIME FOR MY FAMILY TO DO THE SAME.

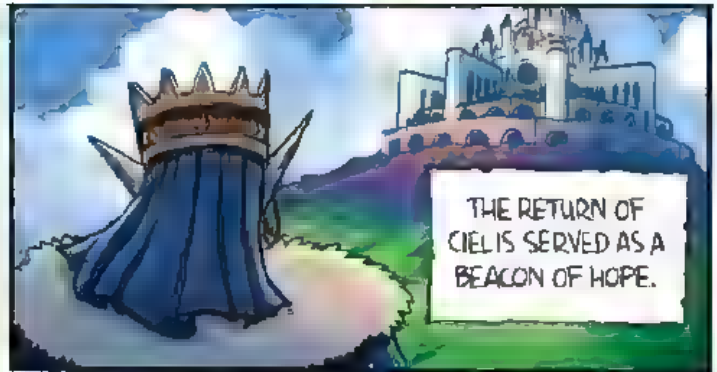


TRELLIS AND THE GUARDIAN COUNCIL WOULD HAVE PLENTY OF HELP--

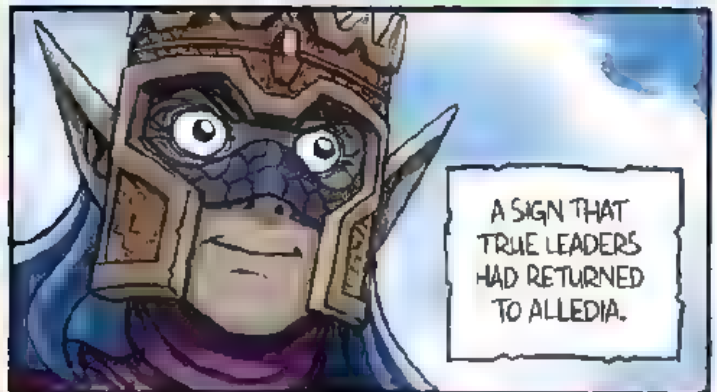
WITH ALLIES LIKE KING GABILAN AND MAYOR RIVA ASH BY THEIR SIDE.



THE RETURN OF CIELIS SERVED AS A BEACON OF HOPE.



A SIGN THAT TRUE LEADERS HAD RETURNED TO ALLEDIA.

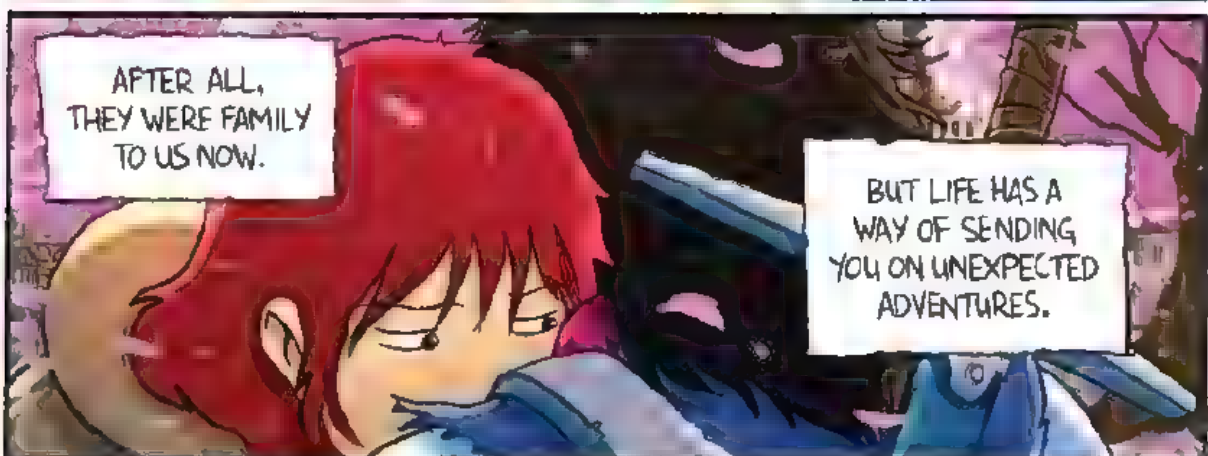
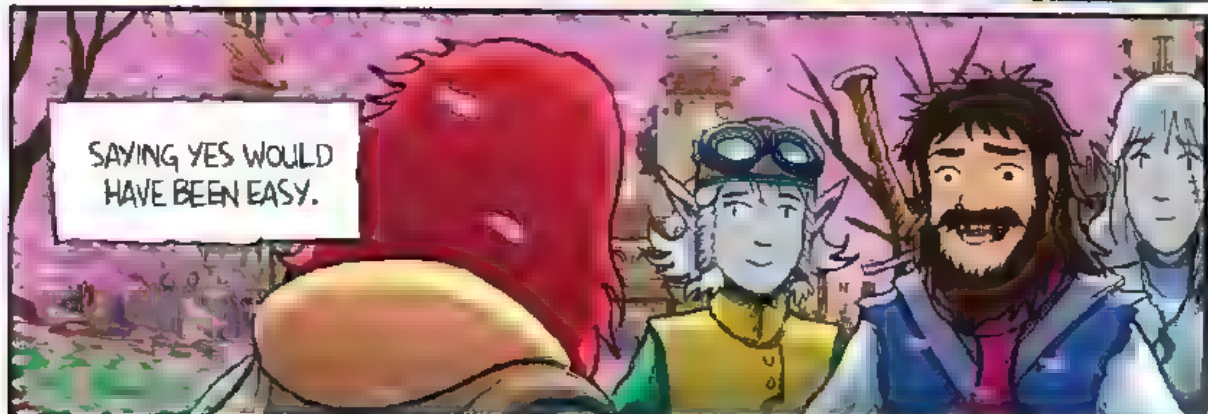
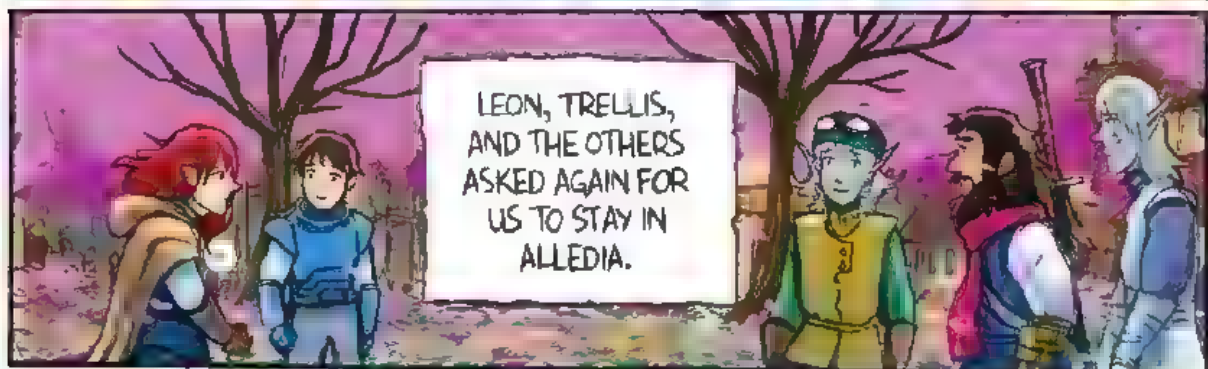
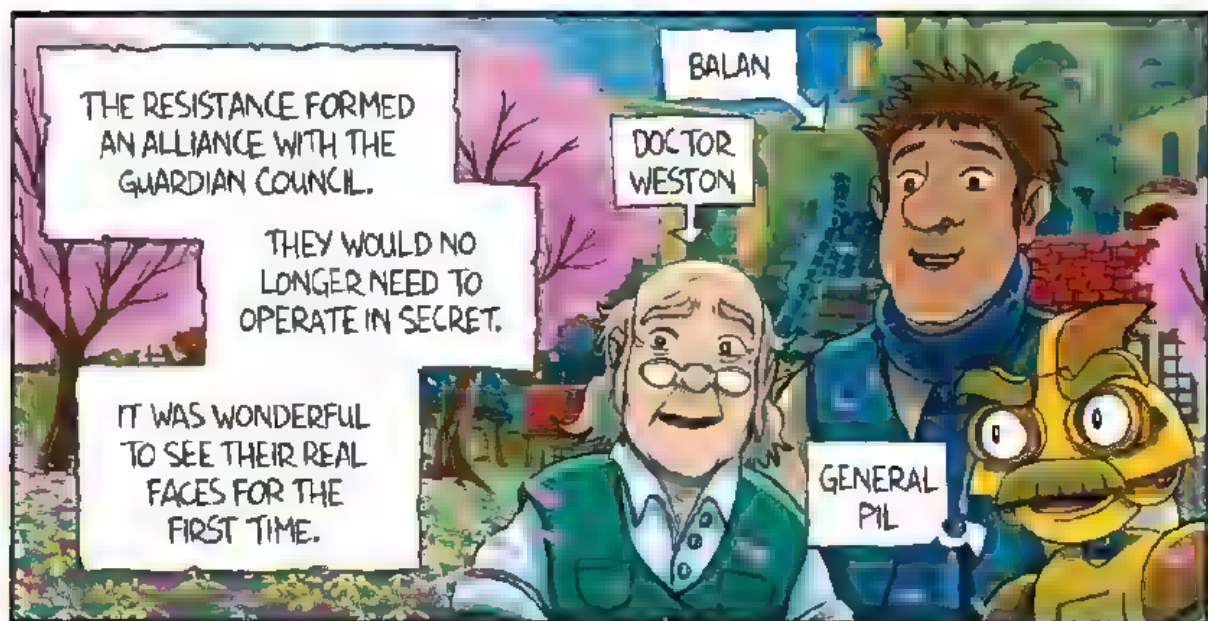


INTRODUCED THE GUARDIAN COUNCIL TO CALA AND CORA, WHO WERE QUICKLY EMBRACED AS NEW MEMBERS OF THE GROUP.

THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS WOULD BECOME THE SUBJECT OF COUNTLESS LEGENDS AND TALL TALES.









SOMETIMES ALL IT  
REQUIRES IS FINDING  
THE RIGHT BOOK.



IN SILAS CHARNON'S  
LIBRARY, I NOTICED  
ONE THAT CALLED  
OUT TO ME.



IT FEATURED THE  
SYMBOL ON MY  
STONE.

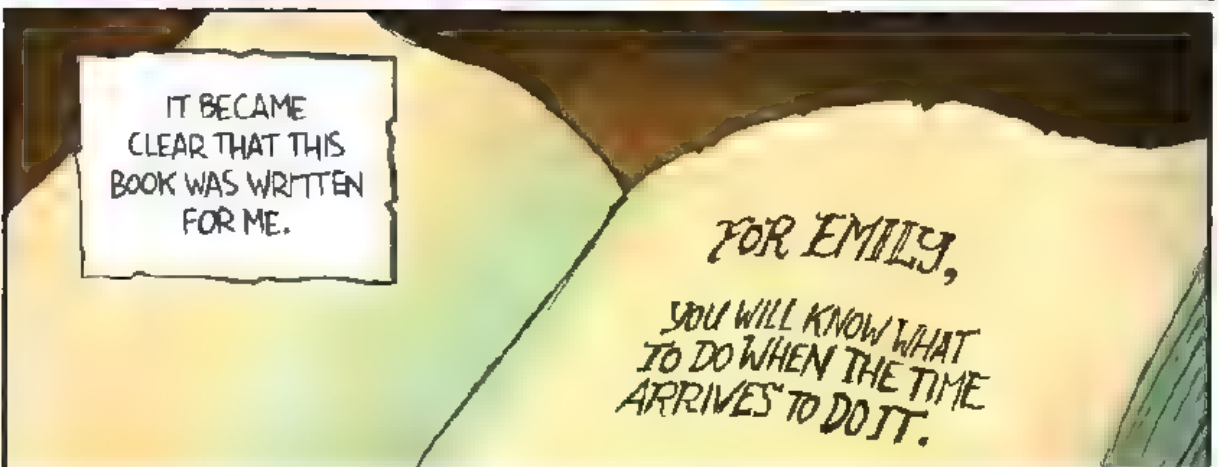
"THE BOOK OF  
LIGHT"

ITS AUTHOR  
WAS VIGO LIGHT.

DID VIGO WRITE  
A BOOK?



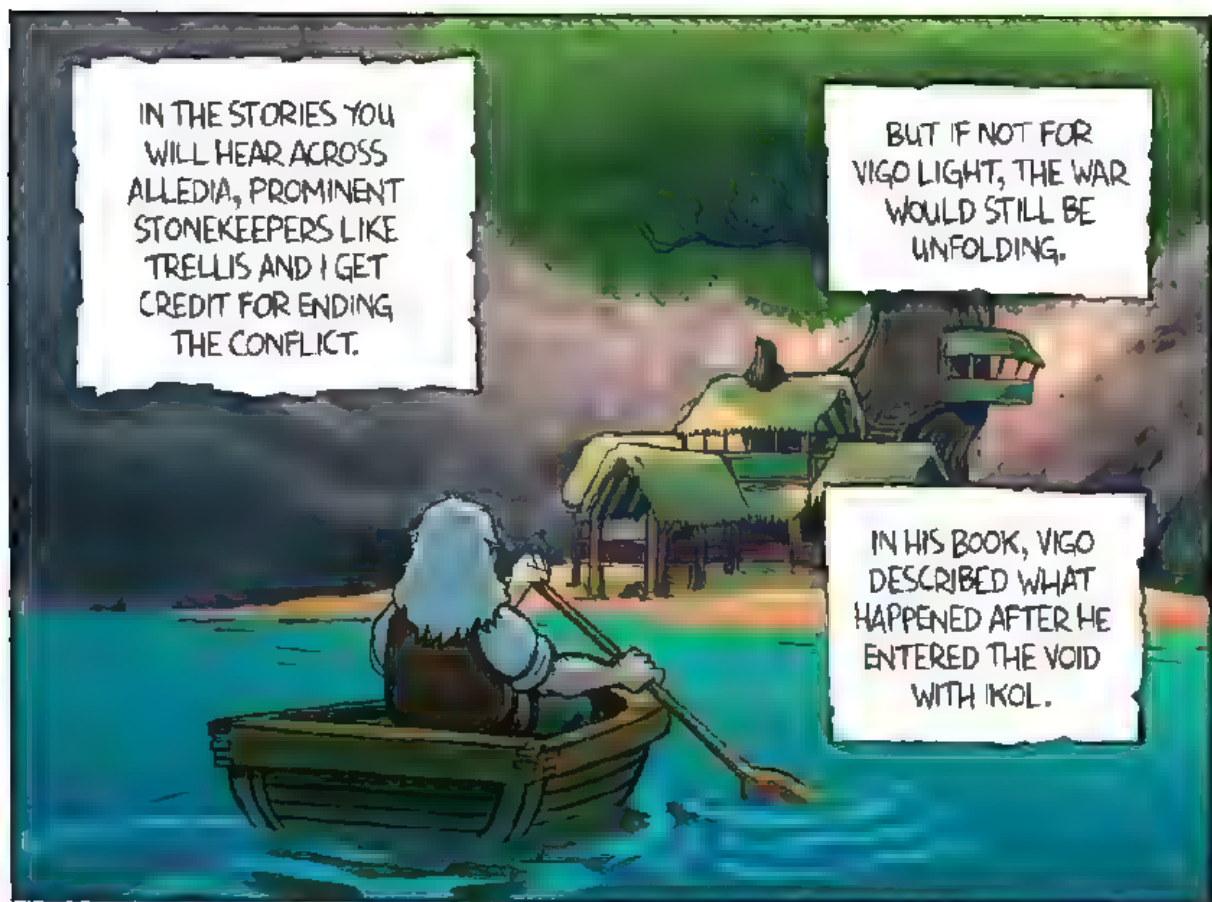
STRANGELY, THE BOOK  
WAS WRITTEN THREE  
HUNDRED YEARS AGO,  
SO I IMAGINED IT WAS A  
DIFFERENT VIGO LIGHT,  
UNTIL--



IT BECAME  
CLEAR THAT THIS  
BOOK WAS WRITTEN  
FOR ME.

FOR EMILY,  
YOU WILL KNOW WHAT  
TO DO WHEN THE TIME  
ARRIVES TO DO IT.

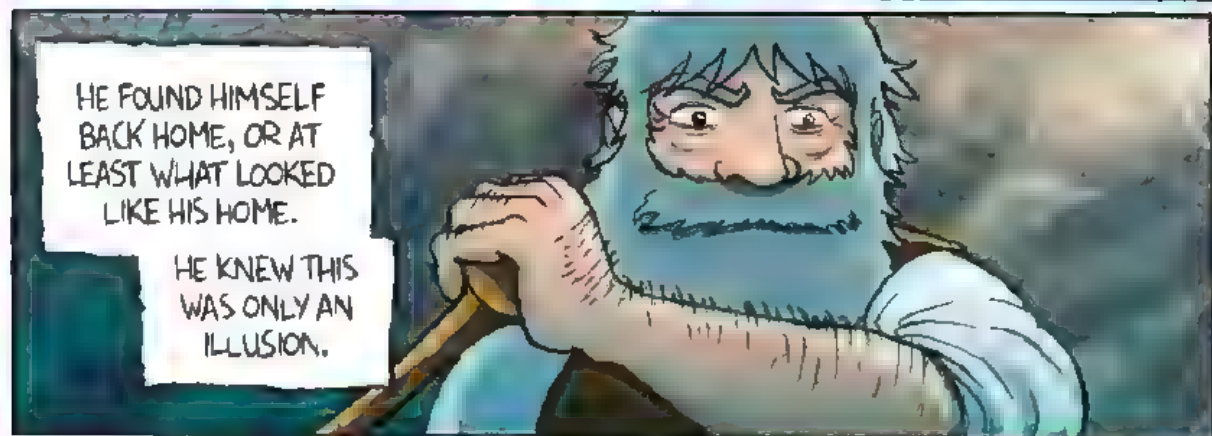




IN THE STORIES YOU  
WILL HEAR ACROSS  
ALLEDIA, PROMINENT  
STONEKEEPERS LIKE  
TRELIS AND I GET  
CREDIT FOR ENDING  
THE CONFLICT.

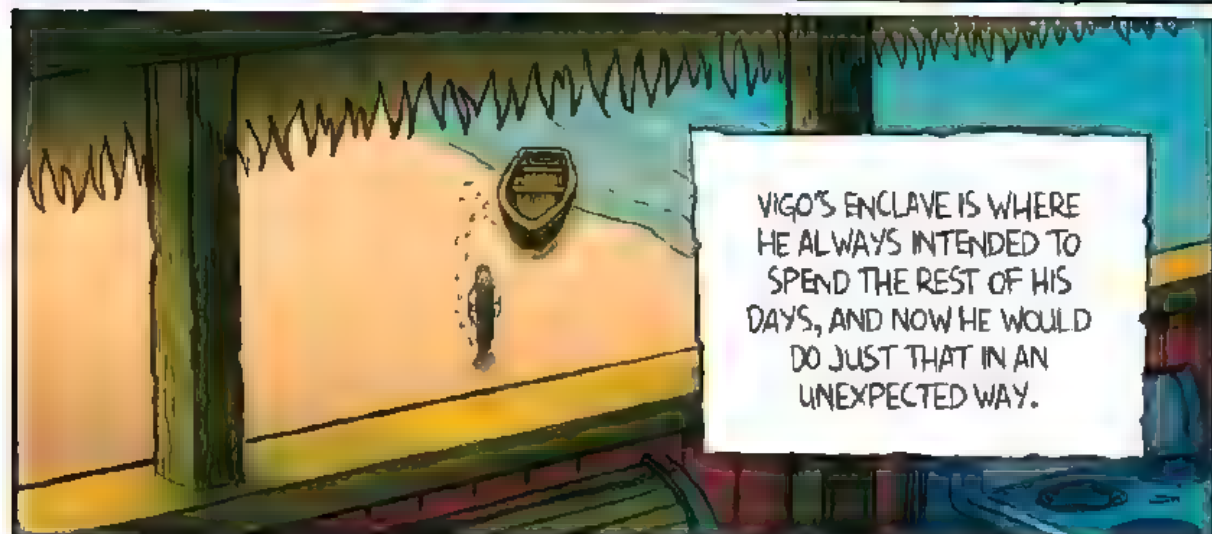
BUT IF NOT FOR  
VIGO LIGHT, THE WAR  
WOULD STILL BE  
UNFOLDING.

IN HIS BOOK, VIGO  
DESCRIBED WHAT  
HAPPENED AFTER HE  
ENTERED THE VOID  
WITH IKOL.

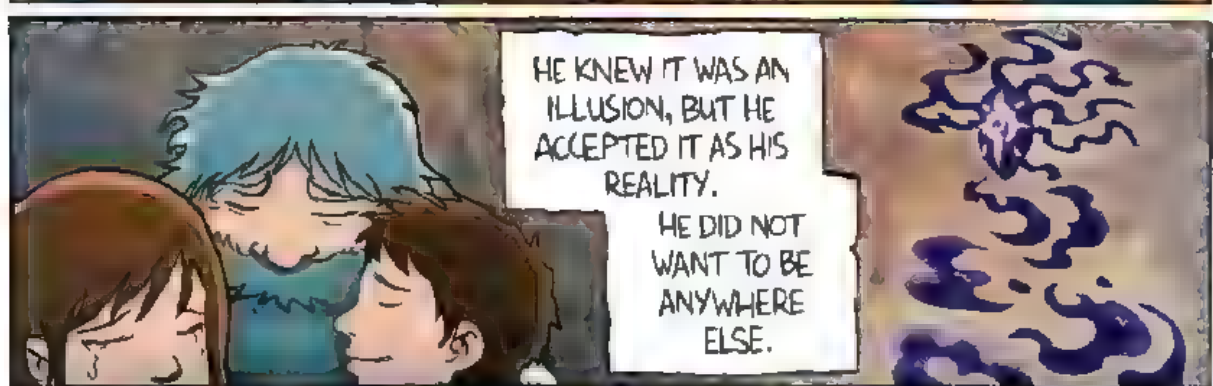
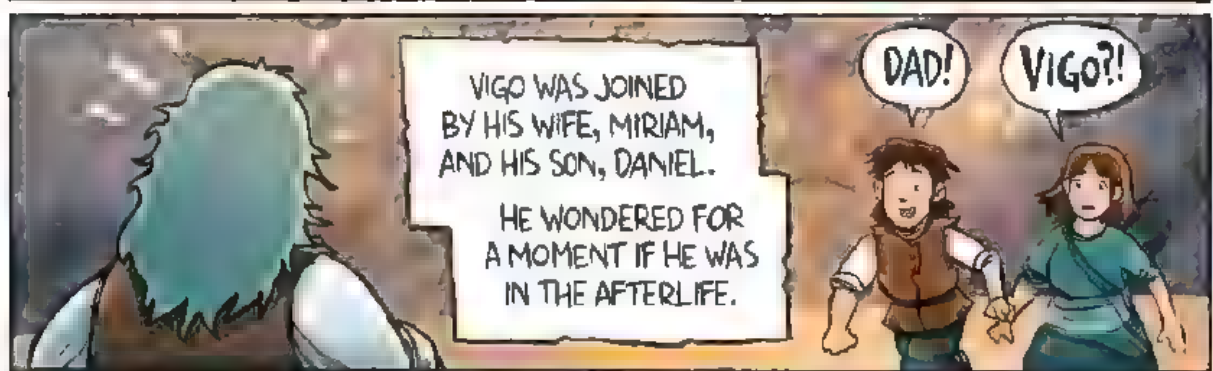
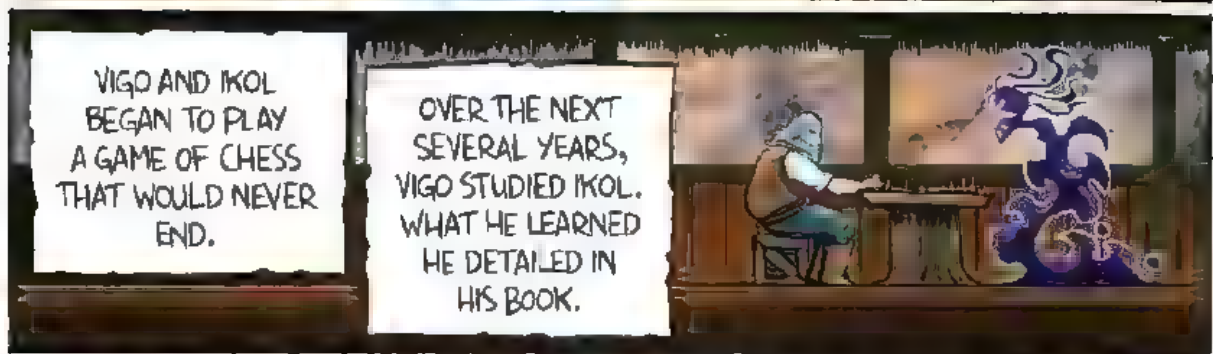


HE FOUND HIMSELF  
BACK HOME, OR AT  
LEAST WHAT LOOKED  
LIKE HIS HOME.

HE KNEW THIS  
WAS ONLY AN  
ILLUSION.

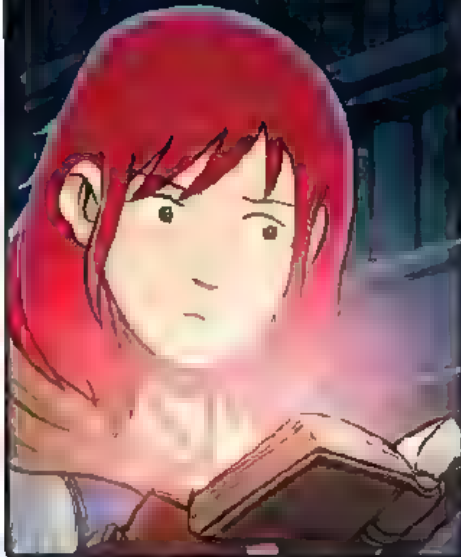


VIGO'S ENCLAVE IS WHERE  
HE ALWAYS INTENDED TO  
SPEND THE REST OF HIS  
DAYS, AND NOW HE WOULD  
DO JUST THAT IN AN  
UNEXPECTED WAY.





HE DISCOVERED THAT IKOL WAS FROM EARTH, AND HE PONDERED THE REASONS WHY ANYONE WOULD CREATE SOMETHING SO DESTRUCTIVE.



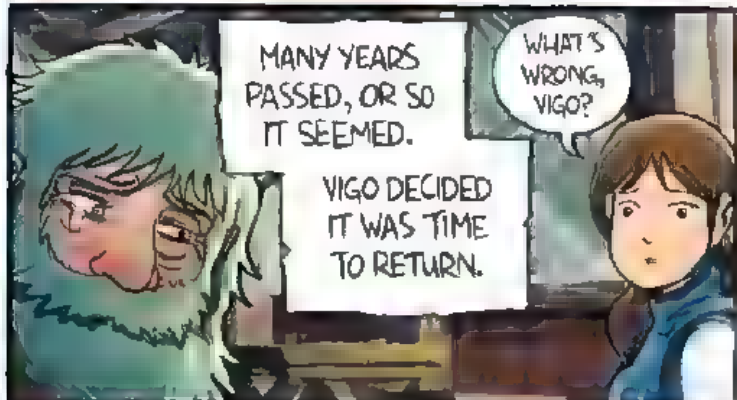
IKOL TOLD VIGO THAT IT WAS HUMAN NATURE TO CREATE THINGS LIKE HIM. IT WAS IKOL'S BELIEF THAT HIS DESTRUCTIVE NATURE MADE HIM MORE HUMAN.



MANY YEARS PASSED, OR SO IT SEEMED.

WHAT'S WRONG, VIGO?

VIGO DECIDED IT WAS TIME TO RETURN.



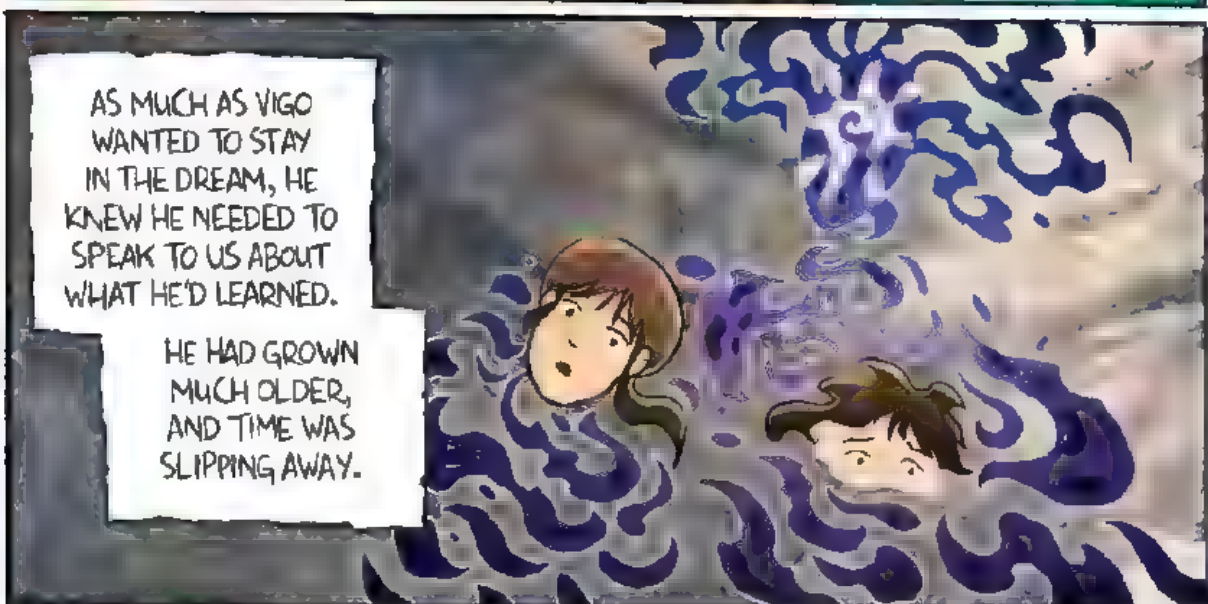
MUCH OLDER NOW, VIGO VENTURED OUT OF HIS ENCLAVE.

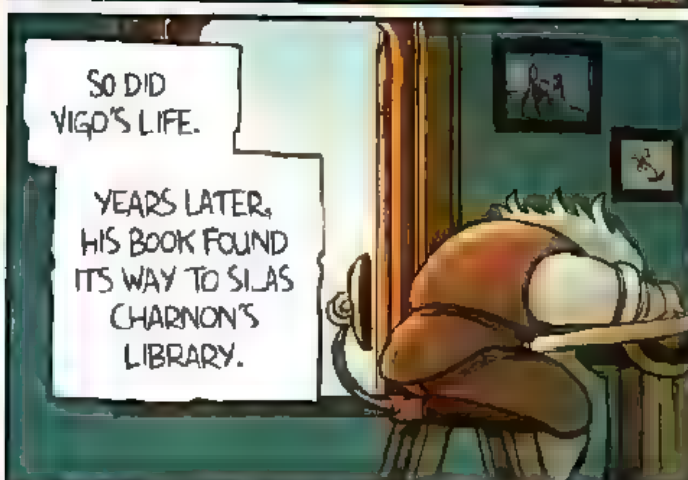
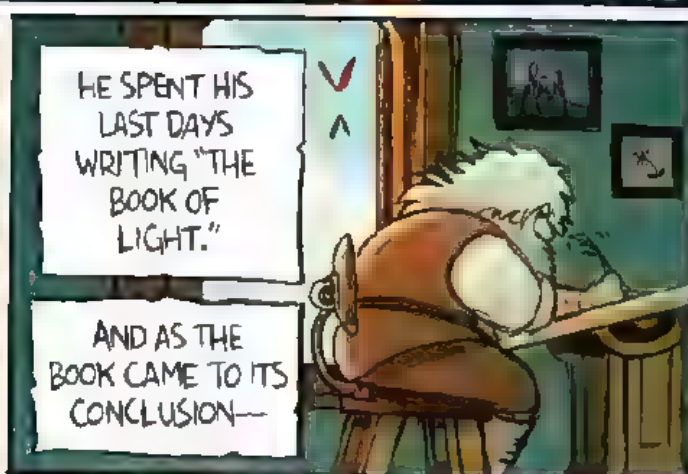
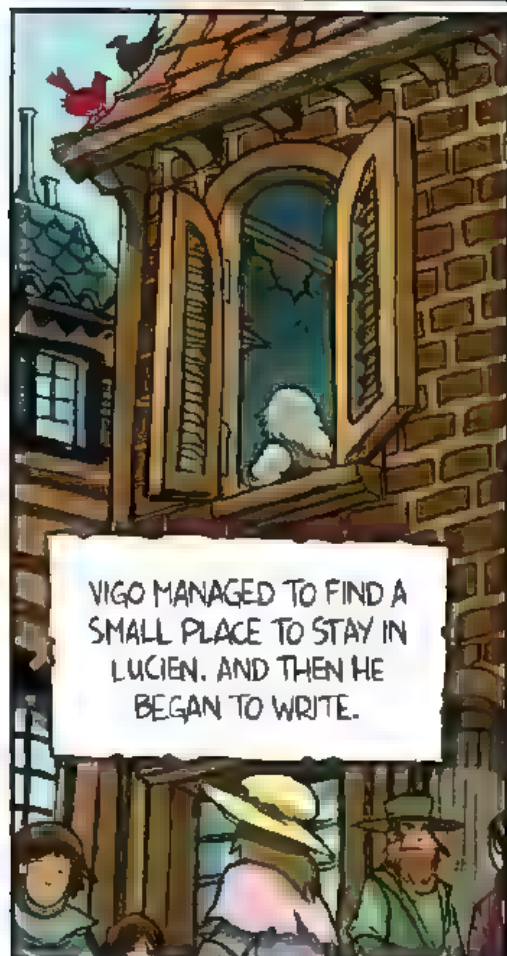
HE LEFT THE BEAUTIFUL ILLUSION BEHIND.



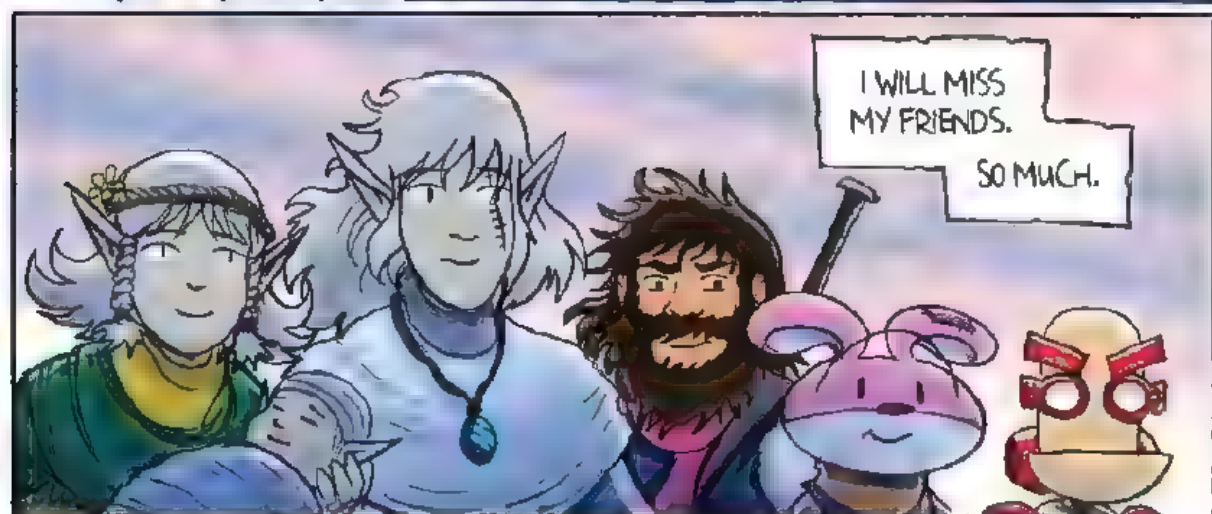
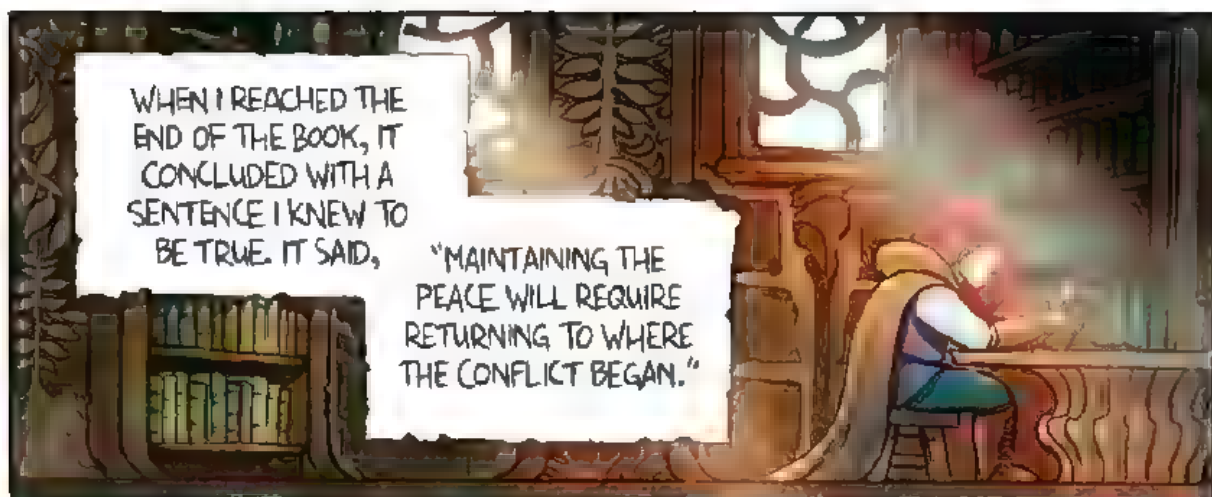
AS MUCH AS VIGO WANTED TO STAY IN THE DREAM, HE KNEW HE NEEDED TO SPEAK TO US ABOUT WHAT HE'D LEARNED.

HE HAD GROWN MUCH OLDER, AND TIME WAS SLIPPING AWAY.









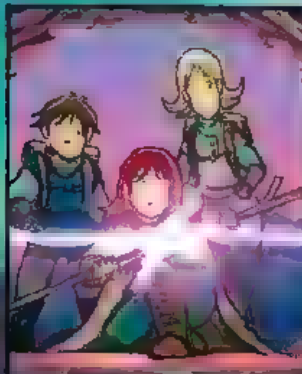
WE SAID OUR GOODBYES IN A CASUAL WAY, AS THOUGH WE WERE ONLY PARTING FOR A SHORT TIME, BUT WE KNEW IT WASN'T TRUE.



I WILL NEVER FORGET THEM.

WE JOURNEYED BACK INTO THE CAVERNS INSIDE DEMON'S HEAD MOUNTAIN.

BACK TO THE BEGINNING.



PLACES THAT HAD ONCE SEEMED DANGEROUS AND ALIEN TO US NOW FELT FAMILIAR.

IT WAS ALL SO BEAUTIFUL AND SERENE.

WE COULD WALK THROUGH ANY STRANGE NEW LAND WITHOUT FEAR IN OUR HEARTS.

IN PLACE OF FEAR WE FELT A LOVE FOR LIFE AND ITS MANY ADVENTURES.

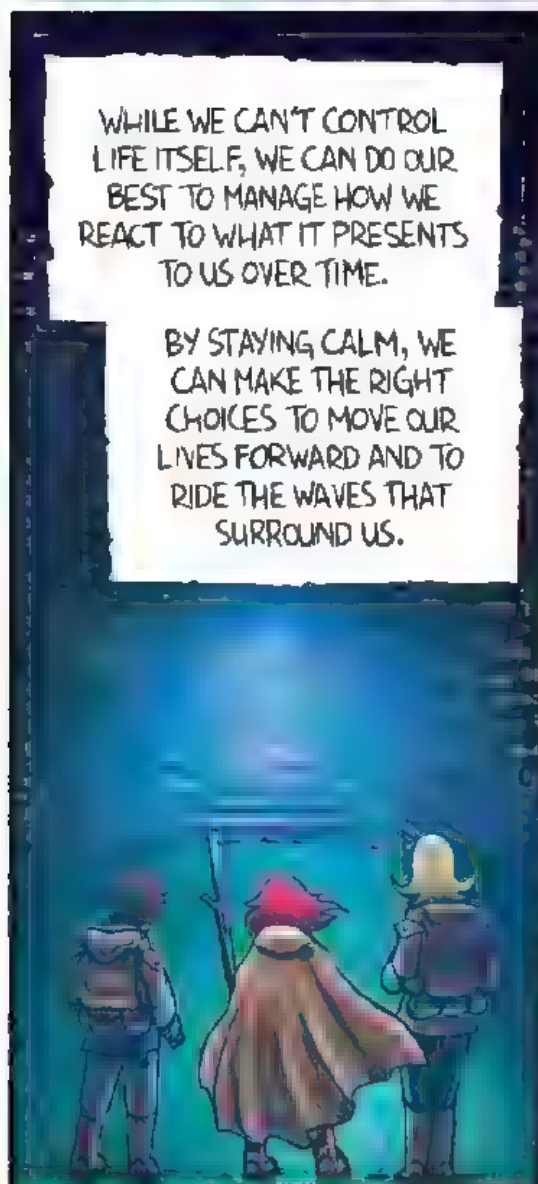






WHEN WE BEGAN OUR JOURNEY, I FELT AS IF OUR LIVES WERE SPINNING OUT OF OUR CONTROL.

WHAT I LEARNED OVER THE YEARS IS THAT LIFE IS ALWAYS EBBING AND FLOWING, FROM GOOD DAYS TO BAD ONES.

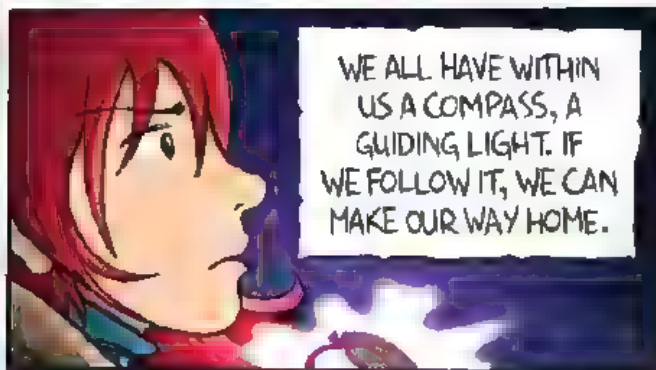


WHILE WE CAN'T CONTROL LIFE ITSELF, WE CAN DO OUR BEST TO MANAGE HOW WE REACT TO WHAT IT PRESENTS TO US OVER TIME.

BY STAYING CALM, WE CAN MAKE THE RIGHT CHOICES TO MOVE OUR LIVES FORWARD AND TO RIDE THE WAVES THAT SURROUND US.



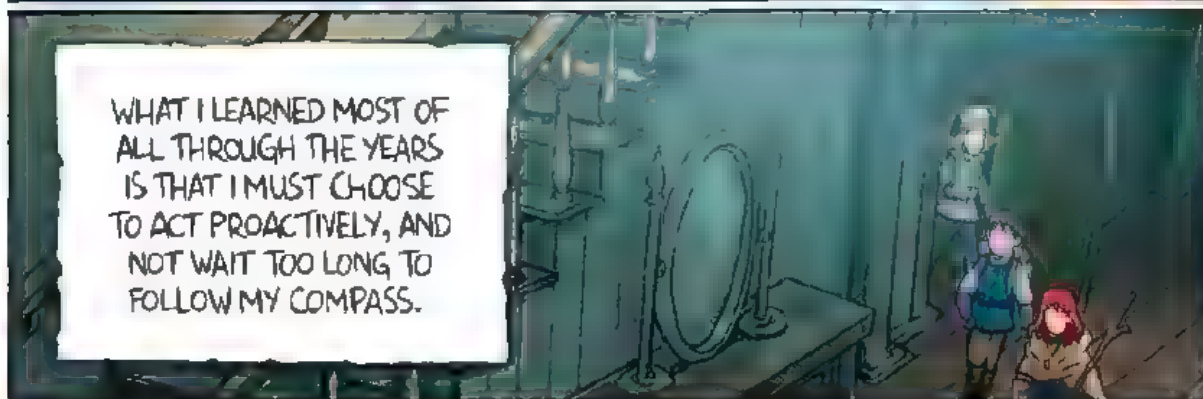
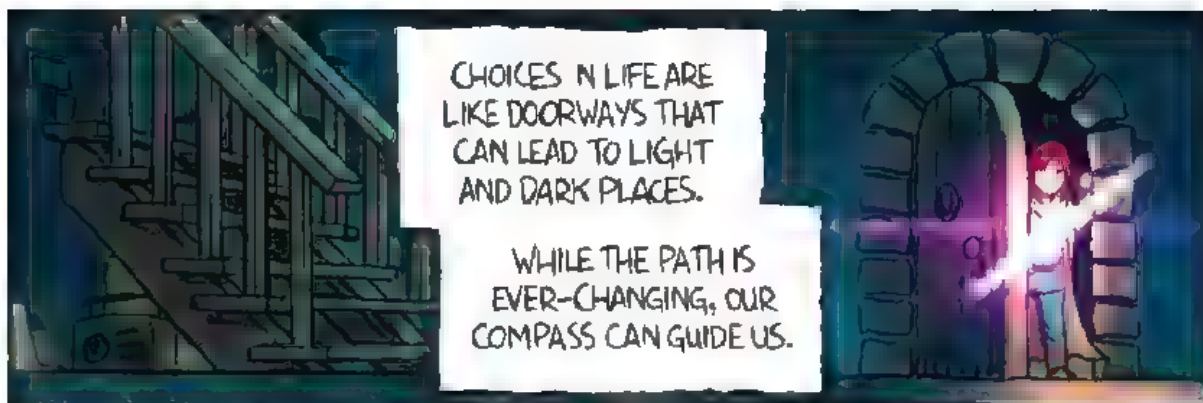
EVEN IN THE MOST TRYING TIMES, YOU CAN FIND LIGHT IN THE DARKNESS.



WE ALL HAVE WITHIN US A COMPASS, A GUIDING LIGHT. IF WE FOLLOW IT, WE CAN MAKE OUR WAY HOME.



BUT IT REQUIRES A WILLINGNESS TO LISTEN.

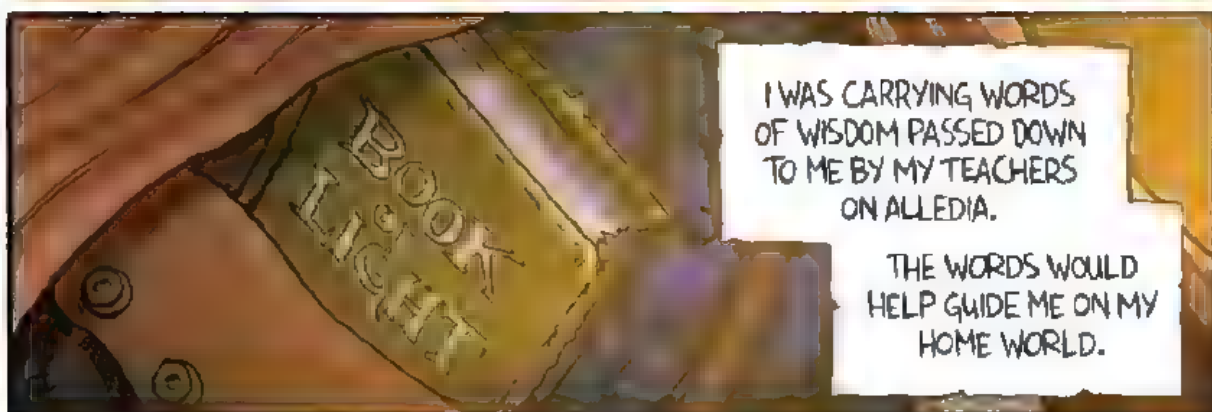






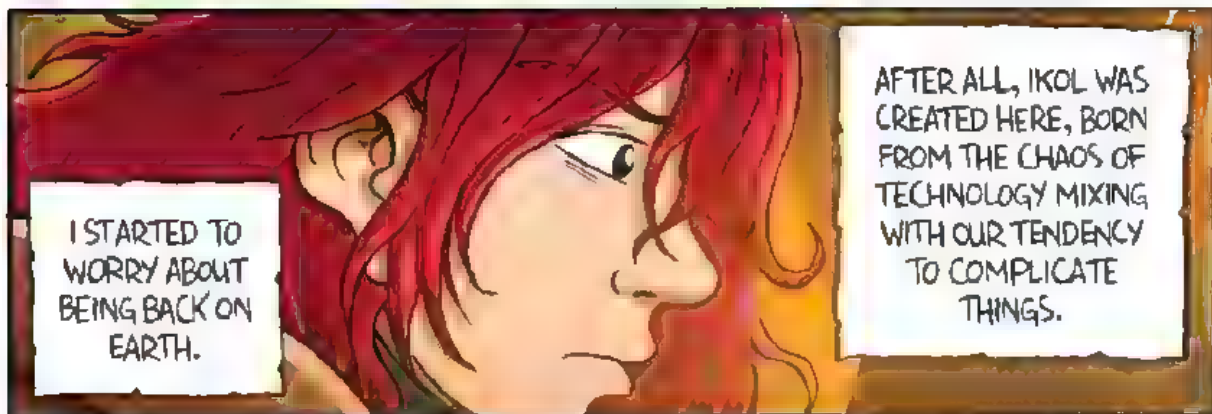
I DON'T KNOW WHY I SUGGESTED  
IT IN THAT MOMENT, BUT THE  
DECISION TO WALK WOULD PROVE  
TO BE CONSEQUENTIAL.

I REMEMBER SO MANY  
DETAILS FROM THAT  
MOMENT IN TIME.



I WAS CARRYING WORDS  
OF WISDOM PASSED DOWN  
TO ME BY MY TEACHERS  
ON ALLEDIA.

THE WORDS WOULD  
HELP GUIDE ME ON MY  
HOME WORLD.



I STARTED TO  
WORRY ABOUT  
BEING BACK ON  
EARTH.

AFTER ALL, IKOL WAS  
CREATED HERE, BORN  
FROM THE CHAOS OF  
TECHNOLOGY MIXING  
WITH OUR TENDENCY  
TO COMPLICATE  
THINGS.



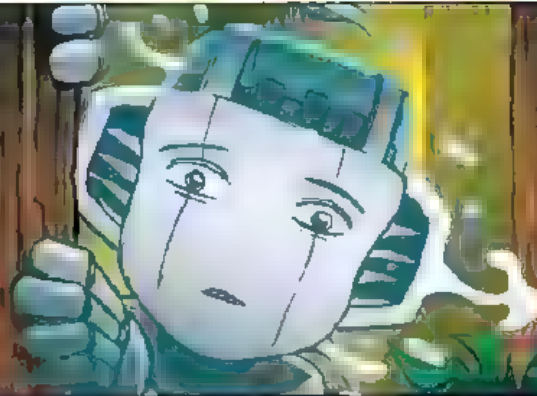
I MUST REMEMBER  
TO WALK CAREFULLY  
AND FOLLOW MY  
COMPASS.

CRUNCH!

MANY OTHERS WERE  
WATCHING US NOW--  
BOTH FRIENDS AND  
FOES--ON EARTH  
AND IN FARAWAY  
GALAXIES.



ONE ADVENTURE WAS  
COMING TO A CLOSE  
AND A NEW ONE WAS  
ABOUT TO BEGIN.



I HAD NO IDEA WHAT WE  
WOULD FIND ONCE WE  
RETURNED TO THE CITY,  
BUT FOR A BRIEF MOMENT  
DURING OUR WALK, I  
REMEMBER THE AIR WAS  
FILLED WITH JOKES,  
LAUGHTER, STORIES, AND  
REFLECTIONS ON LIFE--



I FELT LIKE I WAS  
A KID AGAIN.

LIKE WE WERE  
JUST A NORMAL  
FAMILY.

I WILL HOLD ON  
TO THIS MEMORY.

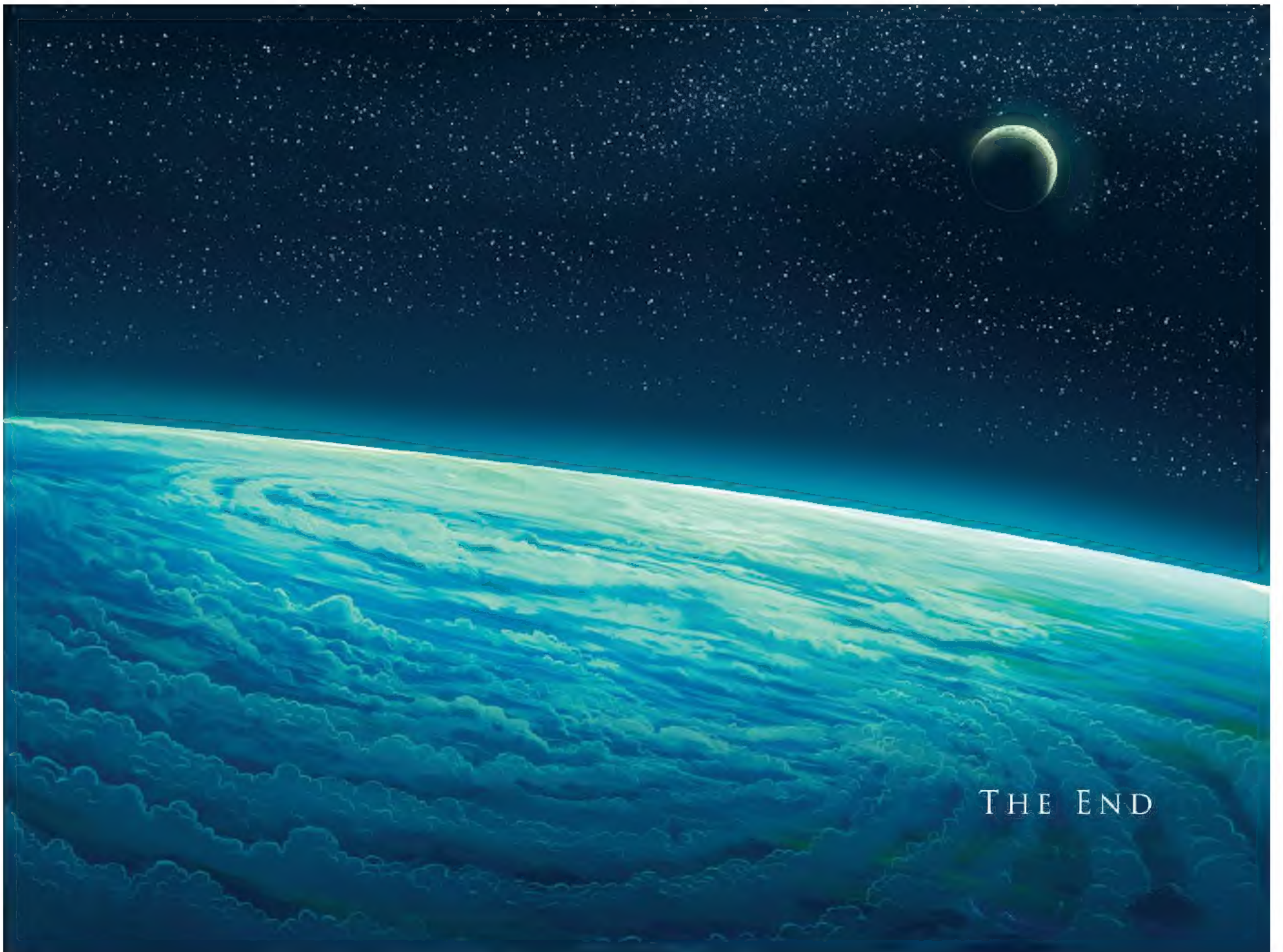
I'M PROBABLY  
GOING TO NEED IT.











THE END







